THE NEW
# INDIAN EXPRESS

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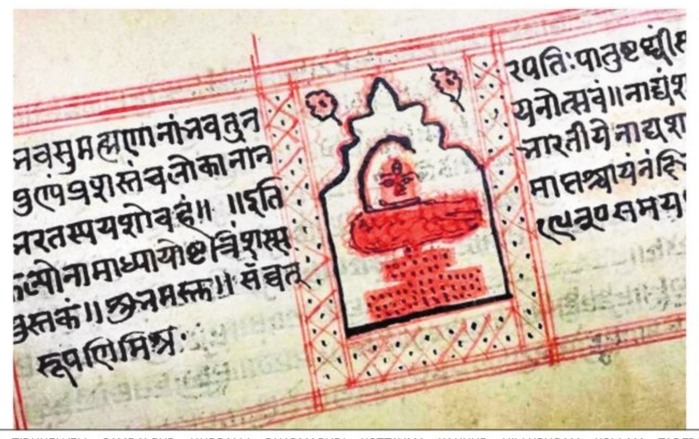
CHENNAI ▪ MADURAI ▪ VIJAYAWADA ▪ BENGALURU ▪ KOCHI ▪ HYDERABAD ▪ VISAKHAPATNAM ▪ COIMBATORE ▪ KOZHIKODE ▪ THIRUVANANTHAPURAM ▪ BELAGAVI ▪ BHUBANESWAR ▪ SHIVAMOGGA ▪ MANGALURU ▪ TIRUPATI ▪ TIRUCHY ▪ TIRUNELVELI ▪ SAMBALPUR ▪ HUBBALLI ▪ DHARMAPURI ▪ KOTTAYAM ▪ KANNUR ▪ VILLUPURAM ▪ KOLLAM ▪ TADEPALLIGUDEM ▪ NAGAPATTINAM ▪ THRISSUR ▪ KALABURAGI



**Bhagavad Gita, Natyashastra part of UNESCO's World Register**

Manuscripts of Bhagavad Gita and Natyashastra are among 74 documentary collections added to UNESCO's Memory of the World Register. Entries on scientific revolution, women's contribution to history and milestones from 72 countries and four organisations are included in it. The development comes on World Heritage Day (April 18). PM Modi described the inscriptions as "a proud moment for every Indian across the world" | P7

# OPPOSITION LIGHTS INTO V-P's N-MISSILE BROADSIDE AGAINST SC

Never seen any RS chairperson make such political comments, says Kapil Sibal

**PREETHA NAIR** @ New Delhi

A day after Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar used strong words against the judiciary, several leaders from across the Opposition spectrum lit into him on Thursday, asserting such interventions are part of a broader, dangerous strategy to erode judicial independence, weaken federalism and centralise executive power.

Rajya Sabha MP Kapil Sibal hit out at the V-P for questioning the Supreme Court that set a timeline for the President to take decisions. Sibal said the Lok Sabha Speaker and the Rajya Sabha Chairman remain equidistant between the Opposition and the ruling party, adding he had never seen any Rajya Sabha Chairman make "political statements" of this nature.

"Independence of the judiciary is fundamental to democracy. What is being done is unconstitutional," he added.

The Constitution — not the government — gave Article 142 powers to the Supreme Court. "I respect him a lot but you said Article 142 is nuclear missile material, how can you say this?" Sibal said.

Echoing the view, Constitutional expert P D T Achary told this paper that the SC rightly used Article 142 and did not override any core Constitutional provision. "Article 142 empowers the highest judicial forum in this country to do complete justice in a particular case. Granting complete justice is the aim of the judiciary and the Constitution has entrusted the SC with this job," he said. Dhankhar had described Article 142, which grants plenary powers to the Supreme Court, as a "nuclear missile against democratic forces available to the judiciary 24x7".

Senior Congress leader Randeep Singh Surjewala said the ruling is "timely, accurate, courageous, and a correction to the notion that those holding high office are above checks and balances... In our democracy, only the Constitution of India is supreme and most elevated. No office — be it that of the President, PM or governor — is above the fetters of Constitutional propriety," he said.

TMC leader Kalyan Banerjee accusing the V-P of "repeated disregard" for the judiciary.

# Khalistani radical wanted for terror acts held in US

**HARPREET BAJWA** @ Chandigarh

GANGSTER-TURNED-TERRORIST **Harpreet Singh alias Happy Passia**, wanted in connection with multiple terror attacks across Punjab and who is alleged to have collaborated with Pakistan's Deep State and Khalistani group BKI, has been arrested in the US, officials said Friday.

Passia alias Jora, who had illegally entered the US, was arrested by the FBI and US Immigration and Customs Enforcement and Removal Operations in Sacramento, the US federal law enforcement agency said.

Punjab Police chief Gaurav Yadav said the arrest is a "major milestone in the success of war against terror", adding the matter has been taken up with the Central government and efforts are on to extradite Passia. Yadav said between 2023 and 2025, Passia played a "central role in orchestrating targeted killings, grenade attacks on police establishments, and extortion across Punjab and various other states".

In the last seven months, 16 grenade attacks took place in Punjab, mostly targeting police posts, religious places and residences of public figures including BJP leader Manoranjan Kalia. Passia's name has cropped up during investigations into at least 14 such attacks.

It is reliably learnt that Pasia is the key operative of the Khalistani militant outfit Babbar Khalsa International (BKI) which has ties with Inter-Services Intelligence (ISI) of Pakistan.

Since 2023, Passia is associated with Khalistani militant Harwinder Singh Sandhu alias Rinda and they have been involved in setting up terror modules in Punjab, sources said.

**TNIE EXCLUSIVE**

# Witness loses memory; pregnant woman's death case in limbo for 15 years

**YATHIRAJU** @ Bengaluru

THE crucial trial of a heart-wrenching incident in 2010 when a pregnant woman and her baby in the womb died due to the alleged negligence of doctors and hospital staff is stuck at the evidence stage.

This is because the doctor who conducted the autopsy on the deceased woman lost memory after he met with an accident in 2019 and is still not in a position to give evidence. His deposition is major material for the prosecution to prove its case against seven accused, including three doctors in the city.

The deceased pregnant woman, Kapali Patne, was admitted to Santhosh Hospital on April 16, 2010. She was shifted to the operation theatre (OT) on the first floor of the hospital for an elective operation.

At the OT, the accused staff negligently dropped Patne from the OT table at a height of 3-4 ft. She sustained a fracture of the left sacroiliac joint. As the accused doctors did not allegedly attempt to save her in time, Patne and her child in the womb died. The CID took up the investigation and filed the chargesheet.

CONTINUED ON P5

# HC invokes Draupadi, says woman not hubby's property

**SHEKHAR SINGH** @ New Delhi

THE Delhi High Court has dropped an adultery case filed by a man against another person who was allegedly in a relationship with his wife. The court said women cannot be treated as "property of their husbands".

Justice Neena Bansal Krishna referred to Draupadi from *Mahabharat*, and ruled, "She had no say in the matter, and what followed was a terrible war that caused the deaths of many." The court said even though Draupadi's tale is well-known, the society took a long time to understand that treating women as a chattel is wrong. It was only when the Supreme Court, in the Joseph Shine case in 2018, struck down Section 497 of the IPC (adultery) that the society reflected on this misogynistic view.

The case was filed by a man who claimed his wife was having an affair with the petitioner. He claimed that the two had gone to Lucknow, stayed in a hotel room together pretending to be a married couple, and had sexual relations. When he confronted his wife, she told him to leave if he had a problem.

Justice Krishna said that as per an old ruling, once a law is declared unconstitutional, it applies to all ongoing cases. The court said sharing a hotel room does not prove that two people had sex. "Just staying in the same room isn't enough to assume anything happened," the judge said, discharging the man from the case and setting aside the complaint.

## TARIFF TRACKER

**DON blinks**

Tit-for-tat China levy over? "I don't want to go higher. At a certain point... people don't buy," Trump said

- White House suggests broader US-Europe summit during Trump's visit. Meloni is bridge between US-EU
- White House economic adviser Kevin Hassett says Trump and his team are studying whether to fire Fed Chair Jerome Powell or not | P9

**EXPRESS READ**

## PM speaks to Musk on tech ties amid trade talks

New Delhi: PM Narendra Modi on Friday held a phone conversation with Tesla and SpaceX CEO and a key advisor of President Donald Trump, Elon Musk, discussing opportunities for collaboration in technology and innovation. The call comes amid trade negotiations and ahead of the upcoming visit of US Vice President J D Vance to India from April 21, as Musk-led ventures Tesla and Starlink also look to expand their presence in the Indian market | P8

**ALMANAC TODAY**

- **Saturday:** 19.04.2025 • **Year:** Vishwavasu • **Ayana:** Uttarayana
- **Ritu:** Vasantha • **Masa:** Chaitra • **Paksha:** Krishna • **Tithi:** Shashti 1.39 pm
- **Nakshatra:** Moola 6.23 am • Moon in Makara Rashi • **Rahukaala:** 09:00 am to 10:30am
- **Gulikakala:** 06:00 am to 07:30 am • **Yamaganda:** 01:49 pm to 03:26 pm

**WEATHER**

MIN 21°C | MAX 33°C

**FORECAST**

Showers late. Increasing clouds

| | |
|---|---|
| Sunrise | 06.04 am |
| Sunset | 06.32 pm |
| Moonrise | 10.35 pm |
| Moonset | 12.05 am |

# GIRINATH LIKELY TO BE POSTED AS ADDL CS OF URBAN DEVPT DEPT

## Deep understanding of city administration makes him well-equipped for UDD role

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

WITH the current Additional Chief Secretary (ACS) of Urban Development Department (UDD) SR Umashankar set to retire at the end of April, speculation is mounting over who will succeed him. According to top sources in the government, BBMP Chief Commissioner **Tushar Girinath** is the frontrunner for the post.

"Tushar Girinath was previously heading Bangalore Electricity Supply Company Limited (BESCOM) and Bangalore Water Supply and Sewerage Board (BWSSB). He has been serving as the BBMP Chief Commissioner for the past 2.5 years. With his deep understanding of city administration, he is well-equipped to handle the crucial Urban Development Department (UDD) role, which involves coordination among key parastatal bodies such as BBMP, Bangalore Development Authority, BWSSB and others, which are crucial for city's infrastructure," a top source explained.

However, the source noted that Girinath could face stiff competition from Gaurav Gupta, an officer of the same ACS ranks, who is currently serving as Secretary Energy Department.

Like Girinath, Gupta has also served in both BBMP and BWSSB, and is familiar with the city's challenges and potential solutions. However, sources believe say, Girinath has an edge, having worked closely with Bengaluru Development Minister DK Shivakumar over the past 2.5 years.

Meanwhile, Bangalore Metro Rail Corporation Limited Managing Director Maheshwar Rao, who also served in BBMP and holds ACS rank, is considered a less likely contender, with the government appearing to favour Girinath or Gupta for the UDD top post.

**RED WAVE**

A man poses with RCB superfan Sugumar during the match between RCB and PBKS at M Chinnaswamy Stadium in Bengaluru on Friday. In the rain-curtailed 14-over game, RCB set a target of 96, which PBKS chased down in 12.1 overs | ALLEN EGENUSE J

### EAST WEST GROUP TO PAY TRIBUTE TO ITS FORMER CHAIRMAN

Bengaluru: East West Group of Institutions is set to celebrate 'Ravi Sambrama' on Tuesday as a tribute to its former chairman CN Ravikiran, with a statue unveiling ceremony. Marking his 50th birthday, the event will be held to honour his contributions to education, entrepreneurship, and institutional growth. Adding on to the ceremony, the campus will be extended with the inauguration of two on-campus industries, aiming to provide students with real world exposure and providing them an opportunity to engage with leading industry professionals.

# Ham Radio celebrates 100 years

ENS @Bengaluru

AMATEUR Radio Society of India (ARSI) celebrated 100 years of the International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) on Friday at Cubbon Park. Amateur, or ham radio is a non-commercial two-way communication system used for communication and educational purposes.

As part of the celebrations, awards were presented to ham operators from Karnataka who went to Kargil to serve the Indian Army. Senior ham radio operators over the age of 80 were honoured for their lifelong contributions to the field. Members from various ham radio clubs were also recognised for their accomplishments in different areas.

A special callsign 'VU1IARU', will remain active until June 29 this year. Besides, installation of 20 ham radio stations in government residential schools were announced under the Social Welfare Department in association with Indian Institute of Hams (IIH) alongside plans for 50 more additional ham stations in the state. The event highlighted the crucial role of ham radios in emergency communications, technical education, and fostering international goodwill.

# Rapid Response Teams to tackle tree fall, traffic woes

Forest officials clear a fallen tree branch after heavy rain at Chandra Layout, Stage-2 in Vijayanagar on Friday | EXPRESS

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

TO ensure traffic movement remains unaffected by tree falls, Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) deployed Rapid Response Teams (RRP) across its eight zones.

With strong winds and pre-summer showers lashing the city this April, the BBMP forest wing has reported 22 incidents of tree uprooting and 79 cases of major branch falls in the past five days.

Each RRT is stationed at the respective zonal office and is equipped to respond swiftly, clearing uprooted trees and fallen branches to restore normalcy. "Tree fall data has been recorded since April 14, when strong winds and rain began. On the directive of the Chief Commissioner, these teams have been deployed at the zonal level. Similar measures were taken last year during the monsoon season. Since the incidents are reported quite early, teams have already become active," said BLG Swamy, DCF, BBMP Forest Wing.

Each RRT jeep is equipped with motorised blades, ropes, generators, and first-aid kits. The teams work in coordination with Bangalore Electricity Supply Company (BESCOM) and traffic police during clearing operations.

In addition, the teams provocatively inspect trees and branches that are dead or at risk of falling. "Residents also file complaints with the BBMP, and based on priority, such hazardous trees and branches are removed before they cause damage," he added.

Special focus is being given to the Central Business District and older areas of Bengaluru--including Gandhinagar, Malleshwaram, Shivajinagar, Vijaynagar, Chamrajpet, Jayanagar, Chickpet, Hebbal, Shanthinagar and CV Raman Nagar, where tree falls can significantly disrupt traffic. Delays in addressing these incidents can lead to major congestion and spillover traffic in surrounding areas.

**GOLDEN JUBILEE OF ARYABHATA SATELLITE**

# Prof UR Rao laid solid foundation for India's satellite programme

TODAY, Bengaluru boasts of ultra-clean and sophisticated facilities for building satellites and the more capable robotic spacecraft for exploring worlds beyond the earth. In fact, facilities where a satellite is skilfully assembled, tested and gets ready to travel to the launch centre exist under one roof in a sprawling building complex near the HAL Airport which forms part of ISRO's UR Rao Satellite Centre (URSC).

Satellites and robotic spacecraft that took final form in URSC, including INSAT and IRS series of satellites as well as more resilient robotic spacecraft like Chandrayaan-1, 2 and 3, Mars Orbiter Mission (aka Mangalyaan) and Aditya-L1 have served (and continue to serve) the country well through their invaluable service and conspicuous achievements.

Thus, it is not an exaggeration to say that satellites have now become an integral part of our economic infrastructure and are contributing to the comprehensive security of our country. Today, about 50 communications, weather watching, cartographic/resource survey and navigation satellites are serving the country.

**Dr BR GURUPRASAD**
Director, Jawaharlal Nehru Planetarium, Bengaluru

### Taskmaster personified

A fervent taskmaster, Prof Rao had the ability to inspire and galvanise young engineers and other staff. Coupled with this, through his proactive adoption of innovative administrative and purchase procedures, he was able to fructify the task of building India's very first satellite in less than three years. The success of the launch of Aryabhata and the invaluable experience ISRO engineers gained in meeting the challenges during its development, and, more importantly during its orbital life, put a solid edifice to the subsequent highly successful Indian satellite programme. Things had to be learnt the hard way.

Aryabhata was not an isolated achievement. Prof Rao was well prepared and had planned to sustain and expand it during the subsequent years in a systematic way. Thus, Aryabhata gave way to the two experimental earth observation satellites 'Bhaskara 1 and 2' and India's first experimental communication satellite 'APPLE'. The lessons learnt during these programmes made Indian satellite scientists to confidently go ahead with the development of India's first indigenously built operational satellite IRS-1A.

### Into the operational era

The success scored by IRS-1A further emboldened ISRO scientists to surge ahead to build the second generation of INSAT series of satellites with nearly twice the weight and service capability of the earlier INSAT-1 series procured from the US. In the 1990s, the fact that IRS-1C became the 'civilian satellite with highest spatial resolution (ability to discriminate features)' spoke highly about India's growing prowess in space.

Foreign media spoke of the Indian space programme's 'success on a shoestring'. In the same decade, India was confident enough to lease the communications transponders of its INSAT-2E satellite to the famed INTELSAT.

The first decade of the new millennium further expanded the Indian satellite programme with the successful launch and recovery of Space Capsule Recovery experiment (SRE-1) and the launch of Chandrayaan-1, India's maiden endeavour to explore the Moon. The conclusive discovery of water on the Moon by Chandrayaan-1 as it orbited that heavenly body was widely hailed as a path-breaking discovery.

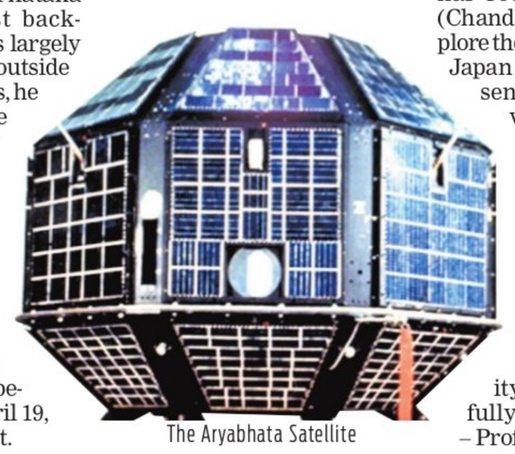
In the subsequent decade, India successfully stepped into the satellite navigation domain with the launch and operationalisation of 'Navigation with Indian Constellation (NavIC)'. The successful exploration of Mars using its Mangalyaan spacecraft that enabled India to become the first country that scored one hundred per cent success in its very maiden mission to explore Mars, itself was yet another conspicuous revelation.

In this decade, the monumental success of Chandrayaan-3 in becoming the first spacecraft to land in the south polar region of the Moon signified India's present space capabilities. So was the success of Aditya-L1 which is performing round the clock solar observation from its distant (1.5 million kilometre) orbital home.

### The future beckons

Later in this decade, India is planning to take up extremely challenging missions including the one to bring back lunar rock and soil samples (Chandrayaan-4), jointly explore the lunar polar area with Japan (Chandrayaan-5) and send a spacecraft to the veiled next door planetary neighbour Venus (Shukrayaan).

The bold decision to undertake these missions reminds us of the solid foundation laid by Aryabhata to the Indian satellite programme and the unique ability of the man who skilfully laid that foundation – Prof U R Rao.



The Aryabhata Satellite

# Daily Starscope

PETER VIDAL

**19th April: Today I'll finish my look at Venus. If you are a sky watcher, you'll know that sometimes this fabulous planet is the brightest star before sunrise, but at others it shines vividly after sunset. This is why it is connected to both light and dark, and to our deepest passions as well as selfless love. And it's strong at the moment!**

**ARIES** (Mar 21 - Apr. 20)
There may now be little point in holding further discussions or meetings until the balance of power has shifted and close associates and partners are prepared to adopt a more flexible stance. You're in an ambitious mood, anxious to do well and come first.

**TAURUS** (Apr. 21 - May 21)
Others may force you to accept certain terms or arrangements that are not entirely to your liking. However, there is plenty of room for negotiation and partners will be happy to modify their plans if asked. All you have to do is find the right way to approach them.

**GEMINI** (May 22 - June 21)
News received from an unexpected source may make your weekend. However, the only real shocks may arise from the spiralling costs of your social plans, or from other very necessary spending. Actually, it's a useful moment for pinning down partners and sorting out family finances.

**CANCER** (June 22 - July 23)
Once you decide that enough is enough you can display a determination that belies your usual accommodating reputation. If you feel ignored and sidelined, then don't worry: before very much longer, partners will be deeply impressed by your amazing achievements.

**LEO** (July 24 - Aug. 23)
Your caring and loyal nature is not in doubt. However, you must live up to other people's image of you if you are not to let them down. It is you who is in control at home, so you may have to shoulder more responsibility than usual. But that's no bad thing!

**VIRGO** (Aug. 24 - Sept. 23)
There is nothing wrong with self-interest, but you are now afforded a tremendous opportunity to show just how utterly selfless you can be when the circumstances are right. It's time to exercise your charitable instincts, doing your valuable bit for the big, wide world.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 24 - Oct. 23)
Something or someone is bound to encourage you to take off and make the most of your current advantages. Do whatever you can to attain a greater degree of personal freedom, keeping your responsibilities to a minimum. The last thing you want to do now is over-commit yourself.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 24 - Nov. 22)
You now have a perfect opportunity to confess your real feelings. This may mean apologising to one particular person, or telling someone else that you love them. You owe such honesty to yourself, and you might find that the consequences are much to your liking.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 23 - Dec. 22)
You have studied the information, facts and figures but what is really important is how you feel about particular people or individual issues. Act in accordance with your instincts and hunches, and you may open doors and shed new light on an old problem.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 23 - Jan. 20)
Certain associates seem to believe that they can pull the wool over your eyes. However, gullible as you may be over some things, you are well aware of the true situation and how to make the most of your resources. These people will be surprised when you stand up for yourself.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 21 - Feb. 19)
In many respects this is a peculiar phase for emotional and family ties, but there may be nothing unusual about this. If you want a peaceful day you must take other people's wishes fully into account. Otherwise, they'll badger and bamboozle you until you do.

**PISCES** (Feb. 20 - Mar 20)
Come what may, you must get all your chores and tasks completed. Boring as it may be, this is a busy day and the accent is on trivia rather than excitement. Finances may require juggling if you are to make ends meet, but then, that's nothing new!

Solutions to Yesterday's puzzle

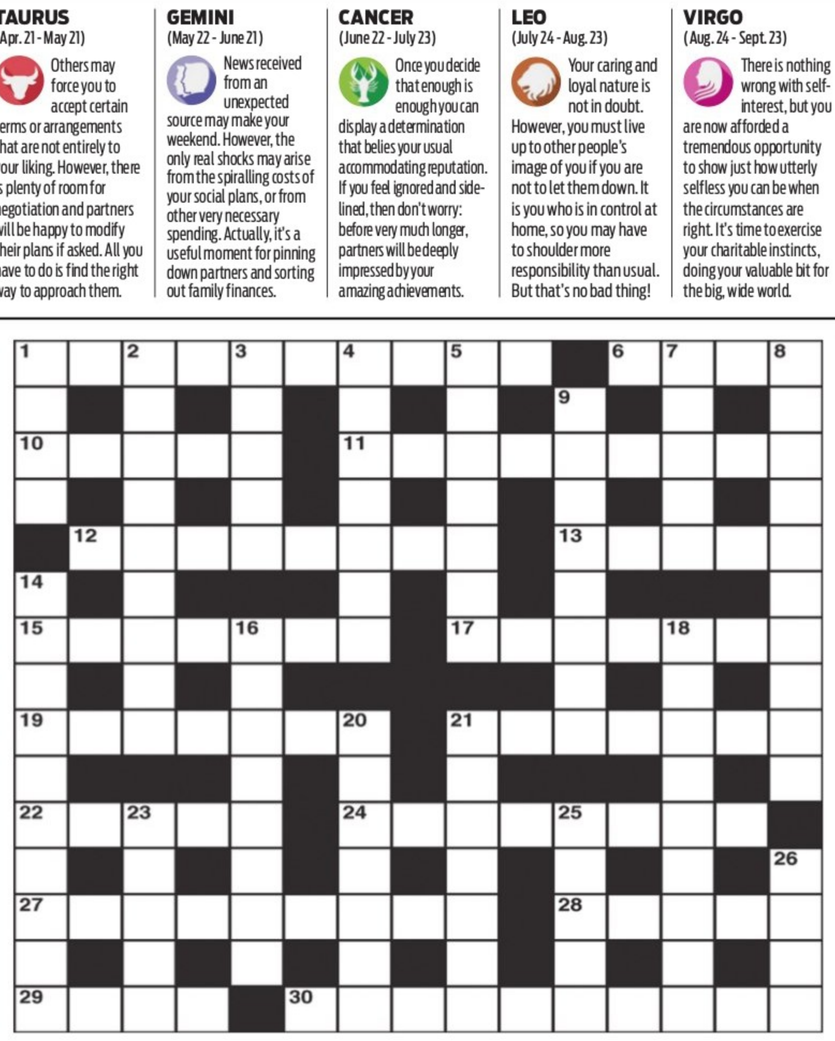
| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 4 | | | | | | | |
| 7 | | | | | | | 5 | 8 |
| | | 5 | | 9 | 7 | 1 | | |
| | 6 | 9 | | 7 | | | | |
| 1 | 7 | | | | | | 2 | 5 |
| | | | | 1 | | 6 | 9 | |
| | | 7 | 5 | 4 | | 3 | | |
| 8 | 1 | | | | | | | 6 |
| | | | | | | | 8 | |

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 6 | 1 | 2 | 4 | 5 | 8 | 7 | 9 | 3 |
| 7 | 9 | 4 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 5 | 8 | 6 |
| 8 | 5 | 3 | 6 | 9 | 7 | 2 | 1 | 4 |
| 5 | 4 | 1 | 9 | 8 | 3 | 6 | 2 | 7 |
| 2 | 7 | 9 | 1 | 6 | 5 | 3 | 4 | 8 |
| 3 | 6 | 8 | 2 | 7 | 4 | 9 | 5 | 1 |
| 1 | 2 | 7 | 5 | 4 | 6 | 8 | 3 | 9 |
| 4 | 8 | 5 | 7 | 3 | 9 | 1 | 6 | 2 |
| 9 | 3 | 6 | 8 | 2 | 1 | 4 | 7 | 5 |

## SUDOKU EVIL

**TEST YOUR NUMBER CRUNCHING SKILL WITH OUR UNIQUE PUZZLE**

Fill in the grid with digits in such a manner that every row, every column and every 3X3 box accommodates the digits 1 to 9, without repeating any.



## CROSS WORD

**ACROSS**

1 Behind gets a smack -you'll be aware of it later! (10)
6 Posh sort of emporium (4)
10 It's poisonous so mother gets a doctor in (5)
11 It opens in the fall (9)
12 Dunces move fast when the principal comes in (8)
13 Nothing is as confusing as its mirage (5)
15 Beasts retiring with broken toes (7)
17 Army unit also included in the scheme (7)
19 Where pedestrians are in danger in attacks (7)
21 Man on the make? (7)
22 Provide some evergreen duets (5)
24 State of California if left in chaos (8)
27 He gets the shrubbery into shape (9)
28 White or green plant put outside (5)
29 Record entry in a catalogue (4)
30 Sums up the scrambled egg as great (10)

**DOWN**

1 They carry weapons (4)
2 Novel young American (3,6)
3 Stretch of water (5)
4 Requests for a variety of apples (7)
5 Arrives in resort to have evening meal (5,2)
7 Some time due to us we hear (5)
8 Appeals with an attempt to produce jocularity (10)
9 Honour for expert who's caught a bad cold (8)
14 Fortuitous bit of scoring? (10)
16 The difference between imports and exports (5,3)
18 Emphatically not at home (3,3,3)
20 Material for firing (7)
21 Keeper has a dog on the hill (7)
23 They are defrauded of a penny in fees (5)
25 Prone to mendacity (5)
26 They change colours (4)

### YESTERDAY'S SOLUTIONS

**Across:** 1 Untried, 5 Scrub, 8 Iron Cross, 9 Ale, 10 Need, 12 Asterisk, 14 Litter, 15 Editor, 17 Armrests, 18 Aces, 21 Act, 22 Burnished, 24 Endor, 25 Seaweed.

**Down:** 1 Union, 2 Two, 3 Inch, 4 Drowsy, 5 Suspends, 6 Realistic, 7 Breaker, 11 Estimated, 13 Remember, 14 Leakage, 16 Starts, 19 Sided, 20 Pisa, 23 Hie.

## JUMBLE

BY DAVID L. HOYT AND JEFF KNUREK

**UNSCRAMBLE THESE JUMBLES, ONE LETTER TO EACH SQUARE, TO FORM FOUR ORDINARY WORDS.**

EECEM

POYUS

GTUHOH

RETIVN

The fleet is returning on board for final instructions on the invasion.
You babies will soon be swimming in Earth's oceans.
THE ALIENS MATERNITY WARD WAS LOCATED ON THE ---
Get the free JUST JUMBLE app • Follow us on Twitter @PlayJumble

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Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer here: _____ _____

(Answers Monday)

Yesterday's Jumbles: HALVE HARSH SPLICE ENGINE
Answer: The Eiffel Tower was engineered and built by — HIGH ACHIEVERS

The Mudigere JMFC court in Chikkamagaluru district has penalised a two-wheeler owner Rs 25,000 for permitting a minor to ride it. During a routine check in Mudigere town on April 4, sub-inspector Srinath Reddy intercepted a minor riding a two-wheeler. A case was registered against Mohammad Siraz, the owner of the two-wheeer

# Uncertainty over DG&IGP Mohan's tenure: To retire or get extension

## State yet to send senior officers' names to UPSC for the post

**BALA CHAUHAN** @ Bengaluru

THERE is confusion regarding who will head the nearly 1lakh-strong police force in Karnataka from next month. While as per the Civil List of Indian Police Service (IPS) of Karnataka cadre, incumbent Director General & Inspector General of Police (DG&IGP) Alok Mohan is scheduled to retire this month-end, it is not yet clear whether the government will grant him a four-month extension till August this year.

Mohan belongs to the 1987 batch of IPS and is the senior-most IPS officer in Karnataka. He was appointed in-charge DG&IGP in May 2023 after his predecessor, Praveen Sood, was appointed Director, Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI). Mohan's appointment was regularised on August 5, 2023.

While the Supreme Court had issued directions on the appointment and a fixed two-year tenure for the Director General of Police (DGP) in the Prakash Singh judgment of 2006, the Karnataka Police Act, amended in 2012, states that the DG&IGP "so appointed shall have a tenure of not less than two years subject to superannuation".

According to sources, there is "no clarity yet on the status of the incumbent police chief after April 30. Chief Minister Siddaramaiah has not yet taken a decision on the issue".

Speaking on condition of anonymity, they added that as per SC rules, the government has so far not sent the names of seniormost IPS officers who have completed 30 years of service to the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC), to begin the process of appointing the next DG&IGP. Normally, states send names to the Commission six months prior to the retirement of the incumbent police chief, but in Mohan's case, the state had sent the names after appointing him in-charge DG&IGP because of Sood's sudden appointment as CBI Director.

The UPSC shortlists three officers from the names sent, and sends its recommendation to the state government. The Chief Minister then appoints one of the three officers as the Head of Police Force (HoPF). "Last year, the Department of Personnel & Administrative Reforms (DP&AR) had issued a notification to two senior IPS officers -- DGP, Prisons & Correctional Services, Malini Krishnamurthy, and Inspector General of Police (IGP), Ballari, BS Lokesh Kumar to submit their application for pension, gratuity etc. While the latter is retiring this month, Krishnamurthy is superannuating in July. The DP&AR notification did not mention Mohan's name, giving an indication that he may be given an extension. There is confusion in the absence of any government order/ notification. Review meetings with unit officers have been slotted for next month, but there is no clarity on who will head the meetings," added sources.

As per the All India Service (AIS) (DCRB) Rules, 1958, the DP&AR issues a notification almost a year in advance to Class 1 officers who are retiring in the next one year, to submit their application for pension, gratuity, commutation of pension, group insurance, among other pension benefits for authorising pensioner benefits at an appropriate time.

After Mohan, there are four senior IPS officers who are in the reckoning for the top post. In order of seniority: DG, Fire & Emergency Services, State Disaster Response Force, Commandant General, Home Guards, Director, Civil Defence, Prashant Kumar Thakur, 1992 batch; DGP, Criminal Investigation Department, Special Units & Economic Offences, MA Saleem, 1993 batch; DGP & CMD, State Police Housing & Infrastructure Development Corporation, K Ramachandra Rao, 1993 batch; DGP, Internal Security Division and Cyber Command, Pronab Mohanty, 1994 batch. These officers have tenures ranging from one (Saleem and Rao) to two (Thakur) and three years (Mohanty).

**GOOD FRIDAY TRADITIONS**

Devotees enact the crucifixion of Jesus Christ to mark Good Friday at St Theresa's Church in Bengaluru | SHASHIDHAR BYRAPPA

**EXPRESS READ**

### Goods vehicle driver arrested for tea stunt on road

Bengaluru: A 26-year-old goods vehicle driver was arrested by SJ Park police for making reel on a busy road. The video, which went viral, shows him sipping tea sitting on a chair in the middle of heavy traffic on SJP main road. He is seen sitting cross-legged as his friend shoots the video. The incident happened on April 12 around 3.30 pm. The driver, Prashanth, is a resident of Nandini Layout. According to police, Prashanth's mother and sister are street vendors in the same area. "The driver was disrupting the traffic infront of the SJP Park main gate. After he was detained, Prashanth claimed that he was addicted to reels and did not expect that the tea drinking reel would land him in trouble," said a police officer.

# No more tobacco ads on KSRTC buses after citizen raises violation

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE**
@ Bengaluru

THE Karnataka State Road Transport Corporation (KSRTC) has removed a tobacco-related advertisement from its bus after a citizen raised the issue on social media and tagged the Officer on Special Duty to the Chief Minister. KSRTC also issued notice to the advertisement agency, which hold the license to place advertisements not to put ads on buses related to tobacco, liquor and related products, drugs, obscene material and the products which are legally banned.

On April 8, Siraj Madaka shared a photo on X, of a KSRTC bus, with its back panel displaying advertisement of a smokeless tobacco product, which is popular among the youth.

Siraj complained that "Displaying advertisements for products harmful to health—such as tobacco, cigarettes, and alcohol—on government-owned buses is not good for society. For the sake of society, it is better not to display such advertisements on government-owned buses. Please pay attention," Madaka wrote, tagging the Officer on Special Duty to the Chief Minister, Dr Vaishnavi K, who took note of the post on the same day.

Vaishanavi immediately forwarded the complaint to KSRTC and the Chief Traffic Manager (CTM) took action and got the tobacco advertisement removed from the bus.

In the letter addressed to Dr Vaishnavi on April 17, the CTM said that a notice has been issued to the advertising agency which got the license from the bus corporation to place ads on its buses.

The notice instructed the agency not to display advertisements related to products banned under the law.

# Harassed over financial dispute, farmer ends life

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE**
@Bengaluru

A 35-year-old farmer ended his life by hanging himself from a tree near a private school in Anekal, on the outskirts of Bengaluru, around 8 pm on Thursday. He was a BJP member. The deceased Praveen Gowda Belur was a resident of Anekal. He had released a video on social media accusing seven people of assault and mental harassment, before taking the extreme step.

In the video, Belur said he had been mentally harassed for the past two months by Kiran Gowda, Harish, Bhaskar, Narayanappa, Doddahagde, Madhu Gowda, and Saravana. He alleged that he was assaulted over a financial dispute and subjected to continuous mental harassment, particularly by Kiran Gowda.

A resident alerted the police, who then sent the body for a postmortem. Based on a complaint filed by the victim's mother, a case under section 108 (abetment to suicide ) of the BNS has been registered against the seven individuals named by Belur in the video.

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**IN THE COURT OF HON'BLE ADDL. CITY CIVIL & SESSION JUDGE AT BANGALORE (CCH-59)**
**OS No. 5583 / 2022**

Mrs. Rajani. B.G ...Plaintiff
-V/s-
Mr. Gangadhar.L & others ...Defendants

**Summons to Defendant 10, 12 &13**

**1. Smt. Puttalingamma,**
D/o Late Lakkanna, ...Defendant 10
**2. Smt. Jayalakshmi,**
D/o Late Lakkanna, ...Defendant 12
**3. Smt. Manjula,**
D/o Late Lakkanna, ...Defendant 13

**All are residing:**
No.113/1, 6th Phase, 9th Cross, Mahaganapathinagar, Industrial Town, Bengaluru-560 044, Karnataka, India

WHEREAS, the Plaintiff above named has filed the suit under order VII rule 1 & 2 of the code of civil procedure, against the Defendant 10, 12 &13 and others seeking Partition and separate possession under order VII rule 1 & 2 of the code of civil procedure, respectively, before the Court is very much necessary for the final order of the Court.

**SCHEDULE 'A' PROPERTY**

All the peace and parcel of the residential house Herohalli Village Panchayath Kaneshumari No. 26/04-166, Yashwanthpur Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk Bangalore, BBMP Ward No. 71 East-West 30 ft. North-South 40 ft. total Measuring 1200 sq.ft. including water and Electricity facility is bounded by: **East by: Property No. 165; West by: Property No.167; North by: Road; South by: Property No. 145.**

**SCHEDULE 'B' PROPERTY**

All the peace and parcel of the Site No. 205/ A, BBMP ward No. 107, situated at 6th Main, 8th Cross, West of Cord Road, Mahaganapatinagar, Industrial Town, Bangalore-560 044, old ACC sheets Roofing house total measuring 1200 sq. ft. in that North-East 30 feet, North-South 30 feet, totally measuring 1200 sq.ft. is bounded by: **East by: Road; West by: Private Property No. 205; North by Road; South by: Private Property No. 208.**

**SCHEDULE 'C' PROPERTY**

All the peace and parcel of the old ACC sheets roofing Factory shed Municipal Corporation No. 9/18, BBMP ward No. 106, PID No. 21-76-9/18, situated at 14th E Cross, Agrahara Dasarahalli, (A D Halli) Industrial Town, Bangalore-560 079 total measuring 1440 sq. feet, totally measuring 1440 sq. feet and is bounded by: **East by: Road; West by: Property No. 9/17 Allotted to Kempamma; North by: Road; South by: Property belongs to Masti Gowda @B Chikkanna**

**SCHEDULE 'D' PROPERTY**

All the peace and parcel of the Hale Mane No. 18 (Saneguruvanahalli Sy. No. 113/1) No. 113/1, As per BDA Plan No.305/C, Situated at BBMP ward No. 107, 5th Main, 9th Cross, Mahaganapatinagara, Industrial Town, Bangalore-560 044, totally measuring 2242.5 Sq.ft consisting of old Sheet house is bounded by: **East by: Road, West by: Road, North by: Road, South by: Private Property**

Take Summons in default of your appearance, on the day of **03.05.2025** the petition will be preceded and determined in your absence as Ex-parte against you.

Given under my hand & seal on this day15.04.2025. **By Order of the Court**
***Sd/-* Senior Sheristedar**
**City Civil Court,** Bengaluru

**Advocate for Plaintiff:**
**Sandeep Hegde, Advocate**
#71/11, 2nd Floor, 18th Cross, Rajajinagar, 1st Block, Bangalore-560 010.

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**PUBLIC NOTICE**

My client Smt. Molakala Hemalatha, W/o late Dr. M. Prasad Reddy, Proddatur, A.P. is the absolute owner in possession and enjoyment of 1 acre 31 ½ guntas of converted land in Sy.No. 139, Panchyath property No. 1131/139/1 of Bandikodigehalli, Jala Hobli, Bengaluru North Taluk. She and her husband have not executed any registered or unregistered documents in respect of the said property infavour of anyone. My client learnt that some 3rd parties by showing Xerox copies of the documents have offered the same for sale. If anyone enters into any transaction with any 3rd party, the same will not binding on my client and such persons will not get any right, title or interest over the same. If anybody is having any document on the basis of which they are claiming rights over the said property may within 10 days from this day may send the same to the under signed, failing which my client will presume that nobody have any right over the same.

**M. ERAPPA REDDY,** Advocate
No.94, 6th Cross, Dollars Colony,
BTM 2nd Stage, Bannerghatta Road,
Bengaluru - 560 076.
Mob: 9448476420 / 8431775144

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**SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY**

**E-Tender Notice No. B-TRD-29-2025-26-OT-02**
**Dated : 11-04-2025**

The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, Invites E-Tenders for the following work:

| Description of work | Approx. Value |
|---|---|
| Outsourcing of TRD maintenance & breakdown activities in Baiyyappanahalli (Incl)- Omalur (Excl), Yelahanka (excl) - Bangarapet (excl), Chikbanavar (incl) - Sampige Road (incl) Bengaluru (incl) - Jolarpettai (Excl), Chikbanavar (Excl) Hassan (Excl), Bidadi-Yeliyur and Yelahanka-Dharmavaram sections for 2 years period | Rs. 19,87,82,652.49 |

Last date for submission of Tender is:
**Upto 15:00 Hrs. on 05-05-2025**

**For details log on: www.ireps.gov.in**

**Senior Divisional Electrical Engineer**
**Traction Distribution, Bengaluru**
PUB/41/AAF/PRB/SWR/2025-26

South Western Railway - SWR | SWRRLY | SWRRLY

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**जी आर एस ई GRSE**
**गार्डेन रीच शिपबिल्डर्स एण्ड इंजीनियर्स लिमिटेड**
**Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers Limited**
(भारत सरकार का उपक्रम / A Govt. of India Undertaking)
रक्षा मंत्रालय / Ministry of Defence
पंजीकृत एवं निगमित कार्यालय : जीआरएसई भवन, 61, गार्डन रीच रोड, कोलकाता - 700 024
Registered and Corporate Office : GRSE Bhavan, 61, Garden Reach Road, Kolkata - 700 024
Web: www.grse.in, CIN: L35111WB1934GOI007891

**Sl. (1) EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI) FOR ONLINE SUBMISSION**
**EOI NO.: SCC/AKD/61P/Vessel/Construction/25-26/EOI-038**
**SUB : CONSTRUCTION OF 02 NOS. VESSELS**
**Due date: 10 days from date of publication**

**Sl. (2) GeM-TENDER NOTICE FOR ONLINE BIDDING**
**GEM BID REF. NO. GEM/2025/B/6135849 DTD 12-Apr-25**
**NIT SLA No.: SCC/KKC/GeM/OT/P/NGOPV/ENGG PKG-1/009**
**Sub: "BRC for ENGG TURNKEY PRE & POST LAUNCHING PACKAGE FOR MAIN PROPULSION, STEERING AND STABILIZER SYSTEM OF 04 NO. NGOPV SHIPS(PACKAGE-1)"**
**Tender Submission Due date: 21 days from date of publication**

Details will be available in e-procurement portal **https://eprocuregrse.co.in;** Central Public Procurement Portal **https://eprocure.gov.in/cppp/** and GRSE website **https://grse.in/tender-published/** for Sl. No. (1) & GeM portal **https://gem.gov.in** for Sl. No. (2)
Any addendum/corrigendum to this tender enquiry will be published in above websites only.

**"In Pursuit of Excellence and Quality in Shipbuilding"**

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**BEFORE THE DEBT RECOVERY TRIBUNAL -II AT BANGALORE**

**ORIGINAL APPLICATION No.1632/2023**

**CANARA BANK,** NRI Branch, Bangalore ...Applicant

Versus

**Mr. Aslam Basha and Others** ...Defendants

**SUMMONS /NOTICE TO DEFENDANTS UNDER RULE 23(VIII) OF RECOVERY OF DEBTS AND BANKRUPTCY ACT 1993, BY WAY OF PAPER PUBLICATION**

**To, Defendant No. 1 and 2**

**1. Mr. Aslam Basha** S/o. Abdul Rahman,
**2. Mrs. Huma Afteen** W/o. Mr. Aslam Basha
Both are R/at : No. 4 and 8/64, 2nd Floor, M. R. Layout, Jayanagar 4th Block, Next to Mythri Enclave, Bangalore - 560 041.

**Whereas**, the Applicant has instituted an Application under Section 19 of the Recovery of Debt and Bankruptcy Act 1993 against you for recovery of a sum of **Rs.2,41,51,492/-** (Rupees Two Crore Forty One Lakhs Fifty One Thousand Four Hundred Ninety Two Only) mentioned therein together with current and future interest and other reliefs.

The above defendants are therefore, hereby directed to appear before the Tribunal in person or through an advocate or through authorised agents in support of their defense within 30 days from the date of publication or on **20.05.2025 at 10.30 am** as to why reliefs prayed for should not be granted.

Take notice that in case of default, the application will be heard and determined in your absence.

Given under my hand and seal of this Tribunal, on this the **19.03.2025.**

Sd/- Registrar
Debts Recovery Tribunal -II, Bangalore
Advocate for Applicant Bank
Mrs. Malini Vinay

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**PUBLIC NOTICE**

This is to bring to the notice of general public that my client Sri. Nikhil Ranjan, S/o Sri.Praveen Kumar Singh. aged 24 years, residing at No. 95/1, Asheerwad Apartment, AGS Layout, Mathikere, Bangalore-560054, is the absolute owner of Property Bearing All that piece and parcel of the residential immovable Schedule C Property Residential Apartment bearing No.S-3, Assigned Sub Khata No.1/1-12, PID No. 100-124-1/12 in the 2nd Floor of the residential complex known as "VARSHA RESIDENCY", measuring 1466 square feet of super built-up area (1145 square feet of built-up area and 321 square feet of common area), constructed on the property bearing Corporation No. 1/1, (including half portion in depth of the joints between the Ceiling of the Apartment and floors of the apartment above it, internal and external walls between such levels) and the building is of RCC roofing, structural foundation with cement blocks, cement mortar, vitrified flooring, Aluminum cross section windows, sal wood doors, separate electricity, common water and sanitary connection, together with one covered Car Parking slot No.S-3 in the Stilt Floor earmarked and including all rights, privileges, easementary rights, appurtenances thereto, Schedule B Property All that piece and parcel of 513.10 square feet of undivided share in the land out of 9808.25 Square Feet in the immovable property in Schedule A property bearing Corporation No.1/1, situated at 3rd Cross Road, New BEL Road, Geddalahalli, Bangalore, Ward No. 100 and including all rights, privileges and appurtenances thereto and the site totally measuring 9808.25 square feet and bounded **E**:Private property **W**:30 Feet Road **N**:30 Feet Road **S**:Private Property, acquired under a registered Sale Deed dt:28/03/2024, registered as Document No.10521/2023-24, stored in centralized data base, Book I, at the office of the sub registrar Hebbal, Bangalore, in favour of my client.

That Original Mother Deed of my client's vendor dt:20/09/2007 entered into between Mr. S.K. Parthasarathy Raju & others in favour of Mr. Lalith Kanunga & Smt. Shanthidevi Kanunga, registered as Document No.01260/2007-08, C.D.No.HBBD4, Book I, at the office of the sub registrar Hebbal, Bangalore has been lost by my client at a xerox shop at 1st main road, Rajajinagar IV Block, Bangalore on 18/04/2025 at about 05:40 pm, my client has also given police complaint in this regard after enquiring about the same. My client has obtained the certified copy of the said sale deeds.

Any person or persons having or claiming any manner of right, title, lien, interest etc. in respect of the above said Property within 7 days from the date of this publication, failing which the claims, if any of whatsoever nature of all such person/s shall be deemed to have been waived or abandoned & my client will proceed with certified copies of the said sale deed, instead of the above lost original sale deed; as if no valid claim or right is subsisting in favour of any one against the above said property.

**Mr. Kiran .S,** Advocate
No.566/4, 75th C cross, VI Block Rajajinagar, Bangalore - 560010. Mob: 9141679995

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**Mysore District Co-Operative Milk Producers'Societies Union Ltd.,**
Bannur Road, Alanahalli Post, Mysuru-570028.
**Phone No. 0821-2474475, Fax No.0821-2474476,**
**e - mail : transportmymul@gmail.com** Date: 17.04.2025

**Tender Notification (Through e-procurement only)**

Mysore District Co-Operative Milk Union Ltd., Mysore Invites tender from eligible Tenderers for the Supply of the following services through e-procurement portal. For the tender document please visit e-procurement platform at **www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in**

| Sl No | Tender Notification No. | Items(Details) | Last Date for Submission of Tender |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | IFT No: KMF/ 2025-26/ SE3349 | Providing Transportation services to supply 15 Ton Capacity insulated Tanker Vehicles for Transportation of raw milk from various routes of BMC Centers to Mega Dairy and Hunasur Chilling centre, and Milk Testing vehicle for MPCS/BMC Milk Test and 1.5 Ton capacity Vehicle for Can Route milk lifting and also Car for F & F daily office work and field visit from eligible contractors on Biennial Rate Contract basis. | 16.05.2025 before 5:00PM |

**For further information please contact Superintendent (Transport) during working hours. (Mobile No: 6366430832/9449056797).**
**Sd/- Managing Director**
**Mysore District Co-Operative Milk Union Ltd.,**

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**INDULGE**
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**THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS**

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**ANDHRA PRADESH CAPITAL REGION DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (APCRDA)**
**Lenin Center, Governorpet, Vijayawada - 520 002 (A.P.)**
**E-PROCUREMENT SHORT TENDER NOTICE**

Tender invites the following bids which can be downloaded on AP e- Procurement portal as per the scheduled dates stated below.

| S.No | NIT No | Name of the Work |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | **13/PROC/ MAU61-USI0HB(OTH)/123/ 2025-HB/2nd Call, Dated: 18.04.2025** | RFP for "Selection of an Agency for conceptualization, installation, and operation of an Immersive Tech Exhibition (Amaravati Experience Centre) on QCBS tendering basis. |
| 2 | **14/PROC/MAU61-USI0HB(OTH)/121/ 2025-HB/2nd Call, Dt:18.04.2025** | Preparation of 3D model of Amaravati Government Complex (AGC) to display at Hon'ble Prime minister's programme at Amaravati" - **Estimate Cost: Rs.88.50 Lakhs.** |

The bids can be downloaded on AP e-procurement portal from **19.04.2025** to **22.04.2025** up to **14:00 Hrs.** Due date for submission of Bid **22.04.2025** up to **15.00 Hrs,** Technical bid opening **22.04.2025 @16.00 Hrs.** For further details Please refer to **www.apeprocurement.gov.in** and **www.crda.ap.gov.in**

**Sd/- Commissioner, APCRDA, Vijayawada.**

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Government of Karnataka
**(Public Works, Department)**
**OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, P.W.D, SEDAM DIVISION, SEDAM**

No.PWD/Ts-1/corrigendum/2025-26/175 Date: - 15-04-2025

**CORRIGENDUM NOTIFICATION**

Sub:- Postphonement Tenders called in e-Procurement for the works under 5054 SH-Bridge Improvements For The year 2024-25 In Chittapur Taluka
Ref:- 1) This office tender notification No. 3178, Dated : 15-03-2025

With reference to the above subject, The tender called for the works Under 5054 SH-Bridge Improvements in Chittapur taluka Work Indent No – 20288 Chittapur Taluka are postponed by technical issue in the e-procurement Portal. The Calendar of Events for the works read as under.

1) Last Date & Time for Tender pre Bid Meeting : 16/05/2025 Mrg 11:30 Hrs, 2) Last Date & Time for Tender Queries/Clarifications: **20/05/2025 upto 17.30 Hrs.** 3) Last Date & Time for receipt of tenders: **27/05/2025 at 16.00 Hrs.** 4) Date & Time for Opening of Technical Bid : **29/05/2025 at 16.30 Hrs.** 5) Date & Time for Opening of Financial Bid: **31/05/2025 at 16.30 Hrs.**

Tender condition in the original notification remains same and the information may be got from the website of e-procurement portal of Government of Karnataka (https//www.eproc.Karnataka.gov.in)

**Sd/-**
**EE P.W.D Division Sedam**

DIPR/Kalaburagi/44/KSMC&A/2025-26

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**SAINIK SCHOOL KALIKIRI, ANNAMAYYA DIST (A.P)**
**(Under the aegis of Sainik Schools Society, Ministry of Defence)**
**Advt No. SSKAL/1010/RECT/2025-02, dated 19 Apr 2025**

**ACADEMIC STAFF REQUIRED**

Sainik School Kalikiri invites applications from eligible candidates for the following vacancies purely on temporary contractual basis (period not exceeding one year): -

| S.No | Post | No. of Vacancies | Age Limit | Pay Scale |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. | PGT (English) | One Vacancy Contractual **(Reserved for OBC-NCL)** | 21-40 years as on 09 May 25 | Consolidated Pay Rs. 62,356/- |
| 2. | Art cum Craft Teacher | One Vacancy Contractual **(Reserved for SC)** | 21-35 years as on 09 May 25 | Consolidated Pay Rs. 58,819/- |

**Interested candidates may apply to the Principal, Sainik School Kalikiri, Annamayya District, Andhra Pradesh, PIN - 517234 with in 21 days from the date of publication of the advertisement.** Eligible and shortlisted candidates will be called for the selection process on a date to be intimated later. No TA/DA is admissible to candidates called for Test/Interview. **The School administration reserves the right to cancel any or all the vacancies due to administrative reasons.**

For application form and further details visit Schools website **https://sskal.ac.in/careers.**

**Sd/- PRINCIPAL**

The Kodagu District Vokkaligara Sangha, including various taluk committees of the community, have strongly opposed the caste census report of the social, economic and educational survey, recently presented by the state government in the cabinet

# JANIVARA ROW: STATE GOVT ASSURES ACTION AGAINST OFFICIALS

● Boys were asked to remove sacred thread in Shivamogga, Bidar ● BJP says government has become inhuman ● KEA issues stern warning to officials

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Bengaluru

A day after students writing the Common Entrance Test (CET) were allegedly asked to remove their janivara (sacred thread) in Bidar and Shivamogga, the State government has sought a comprehensive report from the deputy commissioners concerned, as well as Karnataka Examination Authority (KEA) officials.

While Chief Minister Siddaramaiah said he will seek information from the officials, Higher Education Minister MC Sudhakar condemned the act and said the state government has taken the issue seriously, and will ensure that action is taken against them. At an examination centre in Shivamogga, students wearing janivaara and other sacred threads were asked to remove them, while in Bidar district, a boy reportedly left the centre without writing the exams on Thursday.

Sudhakar told reporters on Friday that this is unacceptable. "I have asked the KEA executive director to give a complete report. The responsibility for conducting CET is given to the respective DCs. We have a set of protocols and they have to work as per the protocols. We don't have any rule that specifies that candidates should not wear the janivaara or any sacred thread before entering the examination hall," he said. If such a case has happened, they would view it seriously, he added.

The minister said it had been reported that a boy was sent back after he refused to remove the thread. Asked if they would allow the student who missed the exam to write it, the minister said he was getting a report. "We did not face this before, it is a completely new problem. We will discuss it with officials and are aware of the impact on the boy's future," he added.

KEA Executive Director Prasanna H regretted that such an incident took place, and said the boy in Bidar had written Physics and Chemistry on Day 1 of CET. On Day 2, when the Mathematics paper was scheduled, he was allegedly asked to remove his janivaara, which he refused to do. He reportedly wrote the Biology exam the same afternoon. "We will discuss it with officials, and see what best we can do for the boy. We will not allow injustice," Prasanna told the media. He regretted the incident and said that in the coming days, they would educate the examination duty staff.

Meanwhile, Primary and Secondary Education Minister Madhu Bangarappa, who is also in-charge for Shivamogga district, said they condemn such an act. "I have asked the DC to give the report and we will take action accordingly," he said.

PIC FOR REPRESENTATION

## BJP TAKES UP ISSUE, SAYS GOVT INHUMAN

KALABURAGI: The BJP has taken up the issue of CET candidates being told to remove the janivaara (sacred thread) on the second day of the examination, and a candidate missing Thursday's exam, at Sai Spurthi Exam Centre in Bidar city. Taking part in the Janakrosh Yatra in Kalaburagi, BJP state president BY Vijayendra and chief whip of the opposition in the Legislative Council N Ravikumar criticized the government for not allowing a candidate, Suchivrat Kulkarni, to write the CET as he was wearing the janivara. "Let them check candidates using necessary instruments and then conduct exams using CCTV cameras, and take action against those indulging in malpractices," they said. While writing the KPSC exam, examination authorities had pressured women to remove their mangalsutra before entering the exam hall. Now they are harassing students. The government has become inhuman, they alleged. Vijayendra and Ravikumar said Suchivrat should be given a chance to write the Math paper as a special examination, or it could impact his future. If he is not allowed to write, the BJP would launch a severe agitation, they warned. Bidar Deputy Commissioner Shilpa Sharma said after she came to know about the sacred thread incident, she served a show-cause notice to the examiner of the centre, Chandrashekhar Biradar. Asked whether there is a provision for the candidate to write a special exam, she said the KEA and government have to take a decision. On Thursday morning, when Suchivrat was asked to remove the thread, he contacted his parents, and they suggested that he should not remove it. However, he was allowed to write the Biology paper on Thursday, wearing the janivara.

## Forum in Mysuru to file police complaint against sacred thread row in Shivamogga

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Mysuru

THE members of the Mysuru Brahmin Yuva Vedike have decided to lodge a police complaint expressing anger against the security staff for allegedly forcing the Brahmin students to remove their sacred thread at the CET centre in Shivamogga.

Terming the incident an insult to Brahmins, a meeting was held by community members at the Sri Ramanuja Abhyudaya Sahakara Sangha Hall in Saraswathipuram on Friday. They decided to organise a protest march on April 19 from Agrahara Circle to the police station, condemning the incident before complaining at Krishnaraja police station.

All-Karnataka Brahmin Mahasabha Mysuru district member Dr Lakshmi Devi said that forcing students to remove the janivara in Shivamogga is an insult to the Brahmin community.

"Brahmins who are priests and cooks are afraid to leave their homes after the incident. Therefore, the state government should take strict action and warn all the miscreants responsible for the misdeeds that disturb the peace in society," he said. Brahmin Sangha president DT Prakash said the Constitution provides freedom of worship for all religions and castes.

"But the sentiments of the Brahmin community have been hurt by the incident. The state government should take appropriate action and dismiss the government employees who have committed the mistake," he said. All-Karnataka Brahmin Mahasabha state vice-president Srikanth Kumar said the state government needs to review the caste census conducted ten years ago. "It has come to light that the staff deputed for the survey work had not visited houses in rural and urban areas. The government must not implement the unscientific caste census. The population of the Brahmin community is more than 45 lakh, but the census report claims just 15 lakh, which is a conspiracy to oppress the community," he said.

*I have asked the deputy commissioner to give the report and we will take action accordingly*
— **Madhu Bangarappa, Primary and Secondary Education Minister**

*Brahmins who are priests and cooks are afraid to leave their homes after the incident*
— **Dr Lakshmi Devi, All-Karnataka Brahmin Mahasabha Mysuru district member**

## KEA asks Bidar, Shivamogga DCs to submit detailed reports

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Bengaluru

FOLLOWING the incident where students appearing for the Common Entrance Test (CET) in Bidar and Shivamogga were asked to remove their sacred thread (janivara), the Executive Director of the Karnataka Examination Authority (KEA), H Prasanna, sent letters to the Deputy Commissioners of both the districts, instructing them to submit comprehensive reports on the matter.

"The KEA has taken serious note of two separate incidents, where students were either denied the opportunity to write the CET due to wearing a sacred thread or were allowed to sit for the exam after removing it. The KEA has issued a stern warning and stringent action will be taken against those responsible for these incidents," Prasanna said.

He stressed that the dress code guidelines do not mandate the removal of the janivara anywhere. Therefore, such actions at the examination centres in these two districts are condemnable. A thorough investigation will be carried out, he maintained.

"In the Bidar incident, a student was not allowed to sit for the mathematics exam because of the janivara. As a result, the student will not be eligible for an engineering rank as per the regulations. However, penalising the student for this issue would not be appropriate. We will consult with the Higher Education Minister to ensure that the student is not unfairly disadvantaged and take appropriate steps," the KEA official said.

Prasanna also pointed out that the responsibility for conducting the CET at the district level lies with the respective deputy commissioners and district police heads. "They are trained in advance on managing such situations, and given written instructions. It is unfortunate that such an incident occurred," he noted.

## Caste survey is scientific, says revenue minister

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Kolar

QUESTIONING critics of the caste survey, Revenue Minister **Krishna Byre Gowda** stated that it was conducted scientifically.

Speaking to reporters after participating in a village fair organised in Chowdadenahalli on Friday, the minister said that discussions have already taken place on the survey. "The ministers also expressed their opinions and the next decision will be Chief Minister Siddaramaiah's," he said, adding that in a democratic system, all can voice their opinion.

After a detailed discussion, the CM will take a decision, and there is no dispute around personal opinions, he clarified.

The minister added that there are false reactions and misunderstandings about the discussions, "but I do not agree that it is unscientific. Let the discussions be based on facts. It is not right to say that it is unscientific," he said.

Around 1.3 crore families, and around 6 crore people participated in the survey. Do all of them belong to the same caste and religion," he questioned. Also, the census was conducted in 30,000 villages.

## Caste census implementation may not happen anytime soon

DEVARAJ B HIREHALLI @ Bengaluru

IMPLEMENTING the Socio-economic & Educational Survey (SES-2015) anytime soon would be a daunting task due to the complexities involved, after the report — commonly referred to as 'Caste Census' — took almost a decade to see the light of day.

Although Thursday's cabinet meeting remained inconclusive, and the issue is scheduled to be taken up again on May 2, Law & Parliamentary Affairs Minister HK Patil said certain technical details pertaining to doubts expressed by many at the meeting over parameters used in the survey were being sought by the ministers, and these were expected to be furnished by the officials.

PWD Minister Satish Jarkiholi himself has been skeptical about its implementation. Interestingly, he has also raised issues of certain communities being allegedly under-counted, and has suggested that the Karnataka State Backward Classes Commission, which conducted the survey, was accountable for it.

Speaking to reporters here on Friday, he said if the issues were not addressed properly, it could backfire like it did when Chief Minister Siddaramaiah floated the proposal for a separate religion status for the Lingayats during his previous tenure as CM.

"It is not one or two communities; hundreds of them were panicking. If they are not placated, it will certainly become a problem. The government should be compromising in nature as the implementation cannot be done all of a sudden. It took 10 years to submit the report to the government, two years to bring it to the cabinet, and it may take another year to come to a conclusion," he said, adding that the priority should be to confront the communities' feelings that their populations were undercounted.

Meanwhile, some experts have raised concerns about restructuring the quota, especially shifting the Kuruba community from category-2A to category-1B, as it is the most backward. The ethnographic study and the secondary source of information to gauge the backwardness of the commission was missing, they alleged.

Whether the commission has taken information about the communities, especially the Kuruba community, that enjoyed maximum benefits under category-2A quota for over decades, is the question.

Former chairman of the state backward classes commission, K Jayaprakash Hegde, while speaking to The New Indian Express, defended the SES-2015, saying that it was based on data and experts' study report on social, economical and educational backwardness that the quota of backward classes was restructured, and added that ethnographic study was not required.

"If a CM who belonged to the Kuruba community had influenced the recommendations in favour of the community, it would defeat the very purpose of providing social justice to other Backward Classes," a Congress leader from a backward caste alleged.

**POWER PLAY**

Former Team India cricket captain and spin legend Anil Kumble calls on Deputy Chief Minister DK Shivakumar at the latter's residence in Bengaluru on Friday | EXPRESS

## Census a game-changer in state politics: HM Revanna

BANSY KALAPPA @ Bengaluru

KARNATAKA State Guarantees Panel chairman and Backward Class Legislators Forum convenor **HM Revanna** said that the long-awaited caste census will shake the very foundations of Karnataka's political landscape. "This is a historic moment," Revanna stated, signaling a seismic shift in power dynamics.

"Backward Classes who have long cried foul over underrepresentation can finally look forward to real, tangible change — more seats, more say, and more strength in both the Assembly and Parliament," he said, pointing out that states like Tamil Nadu and Jharkhand enjoy more than 50 per cent reservation. "Why not Karnataka," he asked, adding that the members of the Backward Classes number 52 per cent, but are presently getting only 32 per cent reservation."

Revanna recalled his days as an MLA from Magadi in 1989 and 1994. "Back then, my own Kuruba community barely numbered 2,500 in the constituency — but now, caste identity has emerged as a powerful political force. It's not just relevant — it's dominant." Revanna has not won an Assembly election since then and the last one he contested in May 2023, he lost to JDS' HD Kumaraswamy, in Channapatna.

Kurubas, the largest of the Backward communities and who are about 7.8 per cent, are not small; they are present right from Chamarajnagar to Bidar, and in some constituencies like Badami, their numbers are fairly large. The other influential Backward community is the Gangamathasta (fisherman community), who are also equally large, and the other big Backward community are the Edigas. They are all a deciding factor in about 110-120 constituencies in Karnataka, explained analysts.

Responding to criticism from some communities, claiming that the caste census is "unscientific", Revanna said, "First read the report before judging. Enumerators reached 98 per cent of rural households and over 80 per cent in urban areas. These were government employees — mainly teachers — not some shady operators with an agenda."

EXPRESS READ

### 'Funds released in a transparent manner'

BENGALURU: Minor Irrigation Minister **NS Boseraju** has said they are releasing funds to contractors ina transparent manner without any interference. He added that the contractors' association had made baseless allegations, and the confusion had been sorted out after a meeting with them on Thursday. He said that they have continued 15,549 works worth Rs 12,693 crore sanctioned in 2023-24 without making budgetary provisions during the BJP government. This year, the department has not started new works and released funds for ongoing works, he said. Boseraju said that they have cleared the dues of 639 of 2,000 contractors and funds are also being released for the remaining contractors. Priority is given to works taken up by small and medium contractors. Funds have been released for all works taken up by the department, he said, and asked the contractors to show if

funds are not released for any single work or a contractor. He said there is no question of any interference in the department and funds are being released depending on the availability to ensure that works are completed on time by adhering to the quality standards. The allegations made by the state contractors association are baseless and if they have any issues, they can approach appropriate authorities, the minister said.

## National Herald case: BJP protests against Sonia, Rahul

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Shivamogga

THE workers of Shivamogga district BJP Yuva Morcha staged a protest at Shivappa Nayaka Palace in the city here on Friday, against Congress leader Sonia Gandhi and Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi, with the ED having filed a chargesheet against them and others in connection with alleged money laundering in the National Herald case. The workers demanded the arrest of both leaders and raised slogans against the Congress, Sonia and Rahul during the protest.

The workers condemned the act of Youth Congress workers who tried to lay siege to the house of MP BY Raghavendra on Wednesday. They said instead of fighting the case in court, Congress workers tried to attack the MP's house and staged a protest in front of the post office. Those who committed the crime should face punishment without fail and is inevitable, the workers added.

Workers of BJP Yuva Morcha stage a protest at Shivappa Nayaka Circle in Shivamogga on Friday | EXPRESS

MLA SN Channabasappa alleged that the Congress has looted the entire nation. It divided the nation during the freedom movement and misused the money donated by people during the movement. "To appease one community, leaders of the party have carried out corruption and have no moral right to criticise Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Both of them should apologise to the people of the nation for the irregularities they have done," he added.

District BJP Yuva Morcha president Prashanth Kukke said money laundering in the National Herald case is the biggest scam done by these Congress leaders. People invested in the newspaper and the Congress has transferred the money to their charitable trust.

At least two persons were killed, while another sustained serious injuries, as lightning and thunderstorm wreaked havoc in different parts of Odisha on Friday. A nor'wester also swept through Bhubaneswar and Cuttack, uprooting trees

# Stalin: TN will forever be 'out of control' for Delhi

No Shah can rule Tamil Nadu, says DMK chief targeting Home Min

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Chennai

TAMIL NADU Chief Minister **MK Stalin**, in a combative attack on the BJP, said the party's "formula" of forming governments in states by breaking up political parties and intimidating politicians through "raids" will never work in Tamil Nadu and the "Dravidian model" government of the DMK will return to power in 2026.

Asserting that the Tamils have a distinct character and self-respect that never allowed domination, he said they will never bow to those in Delhi. "Our Tamil Nadu will forever be 'out of control' for Delhi," he said, while speaking at a government function in Ponneri in Tiruvallur on Friday. Alleging that the BJP has threatened some in Tamil Nadu to forge an alliance, he challenged the party for a fight in 2026 and asked them to bring their entire "parivar". Contending that the BJP would intimidate with the central agencies at their disposal, Stalin said the Tamils are not slaves to submit to such threats. "Not (Union Home Minister) Amit Shah, but no Shah can rule Tamil Nadu because this is Tamil Nadu," he said.

He slammed the BJP of insulting Tamils by recalling the recent controversial remarks of Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan and recalling how the BJP targeted an IAS officer of Tamil origin during the last assembly election in Odisha.

Referring to PM Narendra Modi's remarks earlier this month in Rameswaram that "no matter how much (funds) we give, they keep complaining," in what was seen as a veiled criticism of the DMK government, Stalin said he wanted to ask the PM with politeness and respect whether he thinks of states as beggars standing before the Union government with their bowls. He said this was the question Modi asked when he was the CM of Gujarat. In a veiled attack on the AIADMK-BJP alliance, the CM said some opportunists were planning to mortgage Tamil Nadu by joining hands with those betraying the state and its people.

On Shah's remarks last week in Chennai, when he announced the AIADMK-BJP alliance, that the DMK was raking up issues like delimitation, NEET exemption, and three-language policy to divert people's attention, Stalin said TN was fighting for all the states on these issues. Questioning if he was wrong to demand rights for states, the Supreme Court's recent landmark verdict against governor's powers following the DMK government's legal battle has shown the "power" of DMK to everyone in India.

He asked if Shah thought the DMK was raising these issues as a diversionary tactic, then why did he did not offer clear answers to the Tamil people on these.

## *BJP issues gag order on alliance talks in TN*

Amid mounting speculation over post-2026 alliance dynamics in Tamil Nadu, the BJP leadership has issued a stern directive to its party functionaries, instructing them not to air opinions regarding future government plans or coalition strategies in public. The move follows recent remarks by senior AIADMK leaders, including general secretary and former Tamil Nadu Chief Minister Edappadi K Palaniswami and Rajya Sabha MP M Thambidurai, about forming a coalition government after the next Assembly elections. The comments sparked unease within the NDA ranks. Reacting to the developments, BJP state president Nainar Nagenthran, in a press statement, underscored the National Democratic Alliance (NDA) remains the BJP's strength. He added any decisions concerning alliances will be made solely by the party's national leadership and conveyed accordingly to the state unit. "No one should express personal views on alliances or future governance. Let our actions focus on building the party," he said.

HUBBALLI HORROR

# Accused was seen twice in our area: Residents

AMIT S UPADHYE @ Hubballi

RESIDENTS of a locality in Hubballi claimed that they had seen Ritesh Kumar a few days before he raped and murdered a five-year-old girl in their layout. The residents of Shreya Nagar claimed that Ritesh was seen twice in their area, and once he was accompanied by another man.

Ritesh, 35, was shot dead by the police the same evening he committed the crime on April 13 when he tried to escape from the police.

A resident from Shreya Nagar said Ritesh was seen suspiciously looking inside a house gate where children were playing. "It was afternoon and I had returned home for lunch. I saw a man looking inside the gate where many children were playing. I asked what he wanted and why was he peeping inside. He replied in Hindi saying he wanted a job. I told him to go away and look for a job in factories and not homes. I also took a photo of him," he said.

Shreya Nagar has been witnessing a series of house thefts since the Varamahalakshmi festival. The residents are vigilant and record anything that they find suspicious.

Another resident said she remembers seeing Ritesh along with another person on Shreya Nagar main road. "I remember their faces as they were throwing stones at stray dogs here.

Ritesh Kumar seen in a Hubballi residential area days before he committed the gruesome crime

When the duo saw a group of women walking, they stopped throwing stones and left the place," she said.

On Wednesday, the Hubballi-Dharwad police released a photograph of Ritesh. After the photo went viral, the residents could recall that they had seen him in their layout. "He looked mentally ill and was not answering my questions properly. When I took his photo from my mobile, he left the area," the resident added.

As per Ritesh's statement , he belonged to Patna in Bihar. He claimed to be living in an abandoned house near Tarihal Industrial Area in Hubballi.

GREEN WARRIORS

More than two thousand people, including environmentalists, members of citizen forums, and students from various schools and colleges participate in the silent candlelight protest organised by the Action Committee for Environmental Protection against the cutting of more than 40 trees on Hyder Ali Road in Mysuru for road widening | UDAYASHANKAR S

# 'Father of Angioplasty' Dr Mathew passes away

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Chennai

**Dr Mathew Samuel Kalarickal**, a pioneering cardiologist widely regarded as the 'Father of Angioplasty' in India, passed away on Friday at a private hospital here following illness. He was 77. In 1986, Dr Kalarickal performed India's first angioplasty, a procedure that revolutionised treatment for coronary artery disease.

He played a pivotal role in the introduction of minimally invasive techniques like coronary angioplasty, carotid and coronary stenting in India, besides training countless cardiologists and setting up advanced cardiac care units. His contributions extended to countries like Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, and Nepal, where he helped lay the foundation for modern cardiology practices. His work earned him numerous accolades, including prestigious Padma Shri award in 2000. He also received the prestigious B C Roy award in 1996. Born on January 6, 1948 in Kottayam, Kerala, Dr Kalarickal did his MBBS from Kerala and moved to Chennai for further studies.

Inspired by the work of Dr Andreas Grüntzig - regarded as the pioneer of interventional cardiology - Dr Kalarickal reached out to him and got trained under Dr Grüntzig. Dr Kalarickal is survived by his wife, Bina Mathew, daughter Anna Mathew and son Sam Mathew.

# Revanth hard sells TG to Japan investors

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Hyderabad

HIGHLIGHTING the state's world-class infrastructure and his government's "consistent" policies, Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy on Friday invited the Japanese companies and business houses to invest in Telangana.

During a roadshow in the East Asian island nation, the chief minister said: "We offer world-class infrastructure, skilled talent and clear and consistent policies to support your investment in several priority sectors like life sciences, GCCs, electronics, EV and Energy storage, textiles, food processing, AI data centres and logistics. Let us build something extraordinary -- for India, Japan and the world." The official TelanganaRising delegation hosted a high-level Investment Roadshow at Hotel Imperial in Tokyo, during which the CM highlighted the state's thriving industrial ecosystem and inviting Japanese businesses to partner in its growth. At the event attended by over 150 participants from the Japanese business community, Revanth Reddy exhorted Japanese investors and businesses to come to Telangana and set up shop.

Telangana CM A Revanth Reddy at the Sumida River Front in Tokyo on Friday

"Konnichiwa, Tokyo. Namaskaram. I bring warm greetings from my people in Telangana, India's youngest and fastest developing state. Japan is called the Land of the Rising Sun. Our state's vision is TelanganaRising. Telangana is rising in the land of the Rising Sun," he said. "I have learnt many things from Tokyo for developing my city of Hyderabad," he added. Sibi George, Indian Ambassador to Japan, emphasised the strong and growing Indo-Japan economic ties.

Director General of JETRO, Bengaluru, Toshihiro Mizutani and Telangana Industries Special Chief Secretary Jayesh Ranjan and others were present.

The roadshow reaffirmed Telangana's commitment to building sustainable, innovation-driven partnerships with Japan. Promotional videos on two flagship projects of Telangana government — Future City, India's first planned Net Zero industrial city, and the Musi Riverfront Rejuvenation Project, one of India's largest riverfront development projects — were released at the event.

# For 348 days, no progress was made as the prosecution attempted to stall the trial

CONTINUED FORM PAGE 1

ACCORDING to the order passed recently by Yashwant Kumar, judge of 51st Additional City Civil and Sessions Court, the injured doctor, who is prosecution witness (PW) No 2, was examined in part on September 2019, and his further examination was deferred on the request of special public prosecutor. Later due to Covid, the case was adjourned repeatedly till October 2020. After issuing a summons to the doctor in November 2020, directing Bowring Hospital to produce the documents on December 1, 2020, the SPP submitted that the doctor had met with an accident and had been advised two-month bed rest.

On April 10, 2023, on the request of SPP, the court directed the Pulikeshinagar police to draw a mahazar and take the statements of the doctor's relatives at his house to see if he could attend the court and give evidence. But the summons issued to the doctor returned with a report that he had lost memory due to the injury and he was not in a position to give evidence. The SPP again filed a memo seeking a detailed medical examination of the doctor at Nimhans.

On August 21, 2023, the Pulikeshinagar inspector submitted a report stating that the doctor was suffering from ultra sensorium and could not be taken to Nimhans. Then the NIMHANS chief doctor visited the doctor's house and conducted a medical examination and submitted the report that the doctor has left-sided weakness, irritability, jitteriness, perseverance and impaired bowel and bladder control.

Again, the police informed the court that the doctor's health was not stable and he refused to go hospital for a medical examination. As per the court's directions, the prosecution proceeded by examining prosecution witnesses 15 to 27. The SPP told the court that the doctor's condition has improved drastically and the court may direct Nimhans to conduct his medical examination.

The accused objected, saying it was not possible for the doctor's health to improve. The memo was filed only to drag the case further. For 348 days, from January 17, 2023 to December 4, 2023, no progress was made as the prosecution attempted to stall the trial. Discharge summaries showed that the doctor was intoxicated at the time of the accident, they alleged.

The court on March 25, 2025, directed the medical superintendent of Nimhans to conduct a medical examination of the doctor and give a report and Pulikeshinagar police were directed to make arrangements to take the doctor to Nimhans. But the police informed the court on April 15 that the doctor had not cooperated. The hearing was adjourned to April 21.

EXPRESS READ

### UGCET 2025: Answer keys released, objection window open till April 22

BENGALURU: Karnataka Examinations Authority released the provisional answer keys for UGCET 2025 conducted on April 16 and 17. The answer keys for Physics, Chemistry, Mathematics, and Biology papers are now available on KEA's official website. Candidates who wish to raise objections to the published keys can do so only through the official portal by 5 pm on April 22. While submitting objections, candidates must clearly mention the paper details, exam date, version code, and question number. Supporting documents must be uploaded in PDF format. KEA has clarified that objections without proper reference to the question number or version code, or those lacking valid documentation, will be rejected.

### PROTEST AGAINST WAQF ACT IN MANGALURU

Mangaluru: A massive protest was organised under Karnataka Ulama Okkoota against the new Waqf Act at Kannur Adyar on the outskirts of Mangaluru. Thousands of people from Dakshina Kannada, Udupi, Kodagu, and Chikkamagaluru districts in Karnataka and Kasargod district from Kerala participated. The protest was held under the guidance of Dakshina Kannada District Khazi Twaka Ahmed Musliyar and Udupi Samyukta Khazi Abdul Hameed Musliyar Mani. Dakshina Kannada Khazi Ahmed Musliyar said Waqf is the right of the Muslims and they will not allow fascist forces to take it away. Maulana Shafi Sa-adi, former president of State Waqf Board, said, "We respect the law. Supreme Court has temporarily emptied the fuel of those who used bulldozers through it's observations on Waqf bill. There are some fascist forces that are portraying our protest against the law as a protest against a particular religion or a party. It is instead a protest against those destroying Constitution."

People protest against the new Waqf law in Mangaluru on Friday

WORLD LIVER DAY

# *Even craft beer alcoholic drink, can damage liver: Docs*

RISHITA KHANNA @Bengaluru

WHILE craft beer is often seen as a premium and natural alternative to regular alcohol, ahead of World Liver Day (April 19), doctors have raised concerns about its impact on liver health. Despite its natural ingredients, craft beer is still an alcoholic drink with the same effects on the liver as any other, experts say, highlighting that the liver is one of the few organs capable of self-repair, but alcohol interferes with its regenerative capacity. They explained that regular exposure can impair the liver's ability to regenerate, making it vulnerable to damage over time and leading to progression of liver damage, moving from mild fatty changes to irreversible conditions like cirrhosis.

Dr Suresh Raghavaiah, HOD and Senior Consultant - Gastrointestinal (GI) and Hepatopancreatobiliary (HPB) and multi-organ transplant surgery at Gleneagles BGS Hospital, explained that while craft beer is often perceived as a premium or safer alternative, it still contains alcohol that the liver must metabolise. "Consistent consumption — such as two to three pints several times a week — can strain the liver over time, leading to fat accumulation, inflammation, and in some cases, alcoholic liver disease," he said.

Unlike heavy drinking, this pattern of moderate but regular intake often goes unnoticed until the damage becomes severe. Beer is no less harmful than hard liquor when consumed regularly. Many craft beers have a higher alcohol by volume (ABV) than commercial lagers. Combined with high-fat foods typically consumed in pub settings, the liver faces added stress, Dr Raghavaiah added. Dr Sonal Asthana, Lead Consultant, HPB and liver transplant surgery at Aster CMI Hospital, explained that while the liver can regenerate, repeated alcohol exposure, even from moderate or occasional drinking, can gradually dull this power.

For younger beer enthusiasts who assume their bodies can "bounce back", this silent wear and tear can fast-forward liver ageing, transforming mild, reversible changes into permanent scarring or cirrhosis before symptoms even appear, Dr Sonal said, highlighting that another hidden danger is the casual mixing of alcohol with common medications. "Many people take over-the-counter painkillers like paracetamol the morning after a few beers, unaware that this combination can spike liver toxicity. Even therapeutic doses, taken while alcohol is still being processed by the body, can lead to elevated liver enzymes and long-term harm often without any immediate signs," she added.

# 'ISRO faced same thrust heat issue as Sunita's spacecraft'

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Kanniyakumari

LIKE the thrust heat issue that the spacecraft carrying astronaut Sunita Williams faced, which eventually delayed her return to earth, Indian scientists encountered a similar problem during an experiment conducted last year at the ISRO Propulsion Complex in Mahendragiri, ISRO Chairman V Narayanan said on Friday.

On Sunita Williams recently expressing interest in visiting India, Narayanan said ISRO scientists had studied the thruster heat anomaly as early as last year. He said that the NASA-ISRO Synthetic Aperture Radar (NISAR) satellite is likely to be launched in June from the GSLV Mark II platform. "Another American communication satellite will also be launched by ISRO in July. In addition, with the cooperation of India and Japan, the Chandrayaan-5 mission carrying a 350-kg rover and a 6,500-kg lander will be launched in future," he said.

He expressed hope of a rocket launch from the upcoming spaceport at Kulasekarapattinam in two years. "ISRO will also establish a space park near Sunset Point in Kanniyakumari," he said.

# EDITORIAL

There are two Americas—separate, unequal, and no longer even acknowledging each other except on the barest cultural terms

David Simon

INDIAN EXPRESS IS NOT AN INDUSTRY. IT IS A MISSION.

— Ramnath Goenka

## DIVERSIFY MARKETS, IMPROVE LOGISTICS FOR EXPORT GROWTH

INDIA'S goods and services exports set a new record, reaching $821 billion in 2024-25 compared to $778 billion the year before. But if you look closely, the growth is not broad-based—instead, it was a game of two halves, with services outperforming goods exports. If merchandise exports stayed flat at a growth of just 0.08 percent (on a low base, as goods exports slowed by 3.1 percent in 2023-24), services exports shot up 12.45 percent, making up for the muted performance of the other half. Interestingly, merchandise shipments in March exceeded the performance of the previous 11 months in absolute numbers, thanks to higher engineering and electronics exports amid the tariff war. Indian exports to the US surged 35 percent in March, as businesses scrambled to dispatch goods, with some even frantically airlifting shipments ahead of the April 2 deadline for the US's reciprocal tariffs to kick in.

Official data released this week also showed that other merchandise exports made up for a 25 percent drop in petroleum products exports, largely due to lower crude oil prices. On the other hand, the total imports stood at $915 billion, driven in part by more gold imports. On the balance, amid rising geopolitical tensions and trade disruptions, Indian exports exhibited resilience. Particularly so for smartphone exports, which in 2024-25 emerged as India's largest individual export commodity by value for the first time. Though the growth was partly due to a rush in exports before the tariff deadline, there is also scope to increase the value of exports in sectors such as agriculture, electronics, automobiles, energy, textiles and alcohol.

The government should make concerted efforts to widen its geographic footprint beyond its top five goods export destinations—the US, the UAE, the Netherlands, the UK and China. As for the US, we should step up negotiations and may consider lowering tariffs on imports that aid domestic producers. Lower tariffs have indeed been helpful in the past. An IMF study showed that a 10 percent reduction in tariffs resulted in a 0.5 percent increase in firm productivity during India's trade reforms in the 1990s. Above all, to sustain our export momentum, the government should also consider enhancing export competitiveness, diversifying products and markets, addressing logistics and infrastructure gaps, easing regulatory burden and improving access to bank credit.

## DON'T COURT CASTES IN NAME OF SOCIAL JUSTICE

WHAT is unfolding in Karnataka in the name of achieving social justice reminds us that caste continues to be a dominant influence in politics. The previous Siddaramaiah-led Karnataka government (2013-18) had commissioned a Socio-economic and Educational Survey in 2015 (SES-2015), which was completed near the end of 2018 by the State Backward Classes Commission under its then chairperson H Kantharaju. The report was finalised in February 2024 by Kantharaju's successor, K Jayaprakash Hegde, months after Siddaramaiah returned as chief minister in his present tenure. The report was placed before the Karnataka cabinet last week and inconclusively debated at a meeting this week. It is scheduled to be taken up again at the May 2 cabinet meeting.

The SES-2015—commonly called the caste census—has already touched a raw nerve, with Karnataka's two dominant castes, the Veerashaiva Lingayats and the Vokkaligas, and several other castes and sub-castes raising objections. They have called it 'unscientific' and demanded its rejection, citing that the survey was conducted a decade ago and its data would be outdated today. They have called for a fresh survey conducted in a scientific manner. The opposition to the SES-2015 cuts across party lines. Some of Siddaramaiah's own ministers and other Congress MLAs are criticising it. Their objections are based on worries that their caste numbers are undercounted and the actual populations not correctly reflected.

It is not lost on those opposed to the SES-2015 that one of Siddaramaiah's strong political playing cards is his support base of AHINDA (a Kannada acronym for minorities, OBCs and Dalits), influenced by Karnataka's former CM and champion of backward classes, Devraj Urs. If social justice—an equitable distribution of wealth, opportunities and privileges in society—is the main objective, then cherry-picking through surveys to identify communities and share benefits can be fraught with the risk of deeply fracturing society. Surveys on castes and communities need to be conducted with utmost caution by taking all stakeholders into confidence. The political class needs to realise that courting castes in the name of social justice is not the path to harmonious progress. Ensuring inclusive and equitable access to the elements of social justice is.

**QUICK TAKE**

### INTO THE YONDER

SOME people are seeing red over five blue-clad women taking a trip to the edge of space. It might be a case of going green with envy. Pop star Katy Perry, journalist Gayle King, Jeff Bezos's fiancée Lauren Sánchez, former Nasa scientist Aisha Bowe, activist Amanda Nguyen and filmmaker Kerianne Flynn recently made an 11-minute sub-orbital trip in one of Bezos's rockets. The world's second richest person, whose Blue Origin venture is for space tourism, got more PR mileage out of this trip than the 10-odd earlier ones. Those justly raising a stink over its environmental impact should also look down at Earth, where 'trophy hunting' of big animals is still a touristy sport in some countries.

The RSS has transformed to adapt to the changing Indian society. Though some of its earlier ideals are no longer at the fore, the core concepts have remained intact

## RSS AT 100: CONTINUITY AMID CHANGE

CHRISTOPHE JAFFRELOT

Research Director at CERI-SciencesPo/CNRS and Professor of Indian politics and sociology at King's College London

MANDAR PARDIKAR

IN 1925, K B Hedgewar, the founder of the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh, envisioned that his organisation would ultimately become "the Hindu Rashtra in miniature". One hundred years later, the Sangh has become a massive institution, with 73,117 shakhas (branches whose members meet daily), giving the organisation a presence in 45,600 localities. Besides, RSS front organisations have flourished to form the Sangh parivar, the family of the RSS.

Today, its student union, the Akhil Bharatiya Vidyarthi Parishad, claims to be the largest student organisation with 4.5 million members. Its labour union, the Bharatiya Mazdoor Sangh, has become the country's leading trade union with 10 million members. Its peasants' union, the Bharatiya Kisan Sangh, claims one million members. And its Vidya Bharati network runs 14,000 schools that employ 73,000 teachers, teaching 3.2 million students.

Lately, the Sangh parivar has reached out to new social categories. In 1992, it created the Akhil Bharatiya Adhivakta Parishad, which has become "the largest organisation of lawyers across India". And in 2001, the RSS, which sees itself as a reserve army, set up an organisation for retired military personnel, the Akhil Bharatiya Poorva Sainik Seva Parishad.

This quite incomplete list testifies to the RSS's effort to cover a large number of sectors of society and influence them from the inside. The Sangh parivar's unity stems mainly from the fact that all its cadres have been trained in the RSS and share the same ideology. But it also stems, at district and state levels, from Samanvaya Samitis (Coordination Committees) which harmonise the positions of all the components of the parivar. At the national level, meetings are held at the annual Akhil Bharatiya Pratinidhi Sabha, which, however, has lost some of its effectiveness.

There are three reasons why the achievements mentioned above need to be qualified.

First, the Sangh parivar's growth has not only resulted from its efforts for promoting Hindutva, but also because of its activities against the Others, because of its attempts at creating fear and anger among Hindus vis-a-vis the Indian Muslims in particular. This agenda has flourished on the polarisation mode after the third RSS chief, Balasaheb Deoras, opted for the making of a Hindu vote bank in reaction to the dual membership controversy—the moment he realised, with the demise of the Janata Party experiment in 1979-80, that the RSS would not be in a position to implement its agenda till it could rely on a political majority. It embarked on a massive mobilisation of the Hindu community that resulted, eventually, in the Ram Janmabhoomi movement.

In the process, the RSS subcontracted to organisations such as the newly created Bajrang Dal the job of unleashing communal violence. This move helped the RSS preserve a clean image, but this façade of respectability hardly concealed the now openly Islamophobic face of Hindutva that was to become the order of the day after 2014, with campaigns against 'love jihad', for cow protection or in favour of reconversion—that has now become the new normal, with a litany of lynchings, bulldozer demolitions and riots.

Secondly, by helping the BJP rise to power, the RSS leaders have lost the initiative, at least in the political domain. Till 2014, Nagpur had a say in BJP's strategy. The RSS leaders certainly never micro-managed the party, but they exerted a great influence over its programme and the selection of its candidates. Things have changed under Narendra Modi, who had started to emancipate from the RSS, which he had joined as a child, when he was the chief minister of Gujarat.

Modi, after he transitioned from the position of an organisation man to that of a politician, stopped reporting to the mother organisation. No Hindu nationalist leaders had done the same and got away with it. Jana Sangh president Balraj Madhok was sidelined the moment he tried to go it alone. Modi could afford to do so as early as 2007 because he had built his parallel power structure and was in a position to short-circuit the Sangh parivar (including the BJP) by relating directly to people via yatras, social media, holograms, TV channels etc.

RSS leaders could not help but support him because of his popularity, in particular among the young swayamsevaks. It remains to be seen whether this transformation in the balance of power within the parivar is irreversible. Will Nagpur be in a position to, at least, play the role of a referee regarding the BJP's affairs after Modi leaves the scene? Only the future will tell.

Thirdly, the Hindutva milieu the RSS is presiding over has lost the moral authority its leaders enjoyed when they fought against corruption as key players of the JP movement or during the fight against the Emergency. If Nanaji Deshmukh, D P Thengadi and Kushabhau Thakre were back on Earth, they would not recognise their Sangh parivar. They claimed that their simplicity and sacrifice for the cause of Hindu nationalism reflected a value system—hence the idea that BJP was "a party with a difference". Their influence over swayamsevaks and beyond came not only from their ideology, but also from the prestige of their renunciation of material comforts and even a professional career; they dedicated their lives to the quasi-sacred mission that was embodied in the RSS.

None of the Sangh parivar leaders today fulfils this ideal. The political economy the Modi government is promoting is its opposite, as is evident from the wealth oligarchs have amassed at the expense of the cottage industries that Deendayal Upadhyay tried to protect—against the Nehruvian model of development—in the 1960s.

The RSS's transformations were partly inevitable. To survive, such an old organisation needs to adapt to society—and the Indian society has changed so much since the 1920s, and even more since the 1990s. Access to power was bound to change the parivar, because "power corrupts, and absolute power corrupts absolutely".

But one may well argue that continuity probably prevails over change in the case of RSS, not only because the shakhas have remained its *modus operandi*, but also—and mostly—because its core ideology is intact. To transform India into a Hindu Rashtra was the top priority of the RSS founders and still is the number one objective of its leaders today. In that sense, the RSS has not changed, but it has changed India, destroying pillars of the legacy of Mahatma Gandhi and Jawaharlal Nehru.

*(Views are personal)*

## THE WAR ON SCIENCE IN TRUMP'S AMERICA

C P RAJENDRAN

Adjunct professor, National Institute of Advanced Sciences, Bengaluru

A century ago, America was not yet a global leader in basic science, despite groundbreaking innovations by those like Thomas Edison, Alexander Graham Bell and the Wright Brothers. At the time, Europe—particularly Germany—dominated fundamental scientific advancements. However, the rise of Nazism in the 1930s, with its toxic ideology of racial and ethnic 'purity', endangered many of Germany's leading scientists. This persecution forced numerous scholars to flee to the US, which welcomed them with open arms.

"A shining city upon a hill"—the line popularised by Ronald Reagan in his 1989 farewell address to encapsulate American exceptionalism—ultimately drew inspiration from the Bible, where Jesus tells his followers, "You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden."

But alongside their religiosity, the US's founding fathers—not all of them devout Christians—were deeply shaped by Enlightenment ideals such as freedom of thought, expression and religious pluralism. This fusion of values forged a nation whose constitution and institutions created a fertile ground for an unfettered academic culture. Such an environment laid the foundation for a robust basic science research.

The rise of American science was accelerated by immigrants fleeing authoritarian regimes in the 1930s and those who arrived later seeking opportunity. These individuals, including talent from India and China, found in 1960s' American academia a rare combination of intellectual freedom and institutional generosity.

It was also facilitated by the Civil Rights Act of 1964, which outlawed discrimination based on race, colour, religion or national origin. The strategic openness to global talent proved transformative.

The accomplishments in basic science led to major breakthroughs—from understanding the atom and the genome to devising the internet and global positioning systems to life-saving therapeutics. The US became a model for others. The lifeline of technology has always been basic science–to understand the natural world in contrast with applied science.

The end of Reagan's rule in 1989 and lapping up of American exceptionalism coincided with the dissolution of the Soviet Union. This author, who had just joined a university in the US as a postdoctoral researcher, remembers watching on television the unfurling of the flag marking the end of the USSR. It was hailed as a victory of neoliberalism and democracy. But a lot has changed in the US between Reagan and Donald Trump.

As a retrogression from Enlightenment principles, some Americans now even maintain that the country is a "Christian nation built by Christians, for Christians"—somewhat reminiscent of political slogans raised in Germany in the 1930s. The cracks in the neoliberal democratic system have been building up over the last several years. This must have made Francis Fukuyama, who jubilantly wrote *The End of History* in 1989, sound more cynical about the prospects of liberal democracy in his more recent writings.

PEXELS

Donald Trump's attacks on academia and government agencies threaten to drive talented researchers away from America, just as persecution forced Germany's leading scientists to flee to the US during the Second World War

Much of the ire of current ruling elites has fallen on science and academia. The future of their research careers is threatened with massive cuts in funding, loss of jobs and revocation of visas. The new administration announced soon after settling in freezes on federal grants for programmes embracing diversity, equity and inclusion. It made drastic cuts to funds for projects paid by the National Institutes of Health, impacting the wherewithal of many leading universities that host such programmes.

It is feared this will encourage a reverse brain drain from the US to Europe and other countries. In a recent poll among US researchers by *Nature*, more than 1,200 out of 1,600 said they would like to leave the country—that is about 75 percent of the total. Of the 700 respondents among postgraduate students, 500 wanted to leave. The *Nature* editorial noted the risks as "the country seeks to devalue scientific evidence in policy making and attack the structures supporting the US knowledge ecosystem, including universities, libraries and museums".

US federal agencies fund 60 percent of the country's basic science research. NIH, whose budget is estimated to be $48 billion, is the largest funder of biomedical research in the world, and the National Science Foundation spends about $9 billion on fundamental science and engineering. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration is facing significant downsizing, affecting its climate science research.

A recent statement by elected members of the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine came out strongly against the funding cuts: "The quest for truth—the mission of science—requires that scientists freely explore new questions and report their findings honestly, independent of special interests. Trump is engaging in censorship, destroying this independence."

They admit "a climate of fear has descended on the research community". Vocal protests by scientists happen, but most of them maintain silence for the fear of antagonising the powerful. Some decisions have been questioned in courts by various academic associations.

What is happening to academic research in the US will also impact its global collaborations. One key question is whether the US will remain a preferred destination for foreign researchers to study and work. If this interest is not sustained, America's loss will be others' gain. *(Views are personal)*

*(cprajendran@gmail.com)*

## MAILBAG

**WRITE TO:** letters@newindianexpress.com

### Consumers' unity

Ref: *Time for Indian consumers to unite* (Apr 18). We are living in the age of consumerism. Yet the consumers are hardly asserting their rights, allowing manufacturers to exploit this gap. Even when complaints reach consumer courts, manufacturers often evade consequences. The efforts of Mumbai Grahak Panchayat are commendable and can evolve into a nationwide movement.

**Sachidananda Satpathy, Sambalpur**

### Helping states

Ref: *Joseph's panel work may help other states too* (Apr 18). The appointment of former Supreme Court judge Justice Kurian Joseph to head the high-level commission to protect the entitlements of states is the right choice by the Tamil Nadu CM. I hope the panel's work will not just help Tamil Nadu, but also others in protecting their rights.

**P Victor Selvaraj, Palayamkottai**

### Waqf amendment

Ref: *Umeed or unmaking of minorities*? (Apr 18). The column effectively highlights the dangers of the Waqf (Amendment) Act. The rule requiring non-Muslim members on waqf boards lacks justification, as non-Hindu members are not included in temple trusts. Justice for minorities is often disregarded.

**M Haneef, Kottayam**

### Legislative turf

Ref: *V-P raps SC on setting prez timeline* (Apr 18). Jagdeep Dhankar has expressed his frustration over the SC setting a timeline for the president to clear bills. Dhankar, known for stirring controversy with his criticism of the judiciary, has now opened a Pandora's box by placing the top court in the dock.

**C V Aravind, Chennai**

### Mobile cash

Ref: *Soon you could withdraw cash on trains using ATMs* (Apr 17). Such facilities on long-distance trains could be a real boon for passengers, allowing them to withdraw cash without needing to get out of the train and access ATMs on platforms.

**M Pradyu, Kannur**

### Nasa's discovery

Ref: *Astonomers find signs of life on expolanet off solar system* (Apr 18). It is heartening to know that scientists have found hints of molecules known to be produced by marine organisms on an exoplanet. This is indeed a landmark moment for humanity's quest to find life outside our planet. I hope Nasa's James Webb Space Telescope will be able to uncover more such findings in the near future.

**Pachuru Vijay Kumar, Tiruvallur**

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**POSTS OF THE DAY**

**S Jaishankar** @DrSJaishankar
True recognition of India's documentary heritage & rich culture. Inscription of Gita and Natyashastra in Memory of the World Register recognises the importance India's knowledge

**Jairam Ramesh** @Jairam_Ramesh
Out of the 327 visa revocation cases of international students... so far, 50% are Indians. The reasons for revocation are random and unclear. There is growing fear

**Chandra Shekhar Aazad** @BhimArmyChief
Dr Ambedkar in his historic "Annihilation of Caste" described inter-caste marriage as the most effective and necessary weapon for the abolition of caste system

# Book accused for murder, says SC

Top court peeved with minor charges against the accused in a case of honour killing in UP

**SUCHITRA KALYAN MOHANTY**
@ New Delhi

EXPRESSING displeasure at the Allahabad High Court and the trial court for charging the accused in an honour killing case in Uttar Pradesh with "culpable homicide not amounting to murder" instead of the higher charge of "murder" under Section 302, the Supreme Court set aside their verdicts and ordered framing of the latter section against them.

A two-judge bench of CJI Sanjiv Khanna and Justice Sanjay Kumar heard a plea by a petitioner, Ayyub Ali, whose 26-year-old son Zia Ur Rehman was allegedly beaten to death by his lover's family members. The accused in the case are Janeshar, Maneshar, Priyanshi and Sham.

The apex court said lower courts wrongly invoked a lesser charge against them "...we were surprised to see why the chargesheet was filed under Section 304 (culpable homicide not amounting to murder) of the IPC, and thereafter, at the time of framing the charge, the trial court brought the charge under Section 304." Section 302 relates to murder.

The top court said it was a "clear case of honour killing" as the deceased and his lover belonged to different religions and faiths. "Is it a crime in society if you like somebody? Should they have to hide because they belong to different faiths?" the court questioned.

It also noted that the deceased faced the wrath of the lover's family as he and his lover belonged to different religions.

The top court ordered framing of charges under section 302 (murderafter hearing Ali's appeal. He had challenged the decision of the Allahabad High Court, which allowed the police to apply the lesser charge of culpable homicide not amounting to murder. The SC set aside the decision of the high court and trial court.

**ALSO IN TOP COURT**

**Conviction of army constable upheld**

The court has upheld the conviction of an army man for firing at his colleagues with a service weapon after being dissatisfied with the food served at the mess. The bench set aside the 2014 order of the Himachal Pradesh HC which had acquitted the accused under Section 307 (attempt to murder) and the Arms Act.

**SC dismayed over MP HC refusing bail**

The Court has expressed anguish over an order of the Madhya Pradesh High Court which held a convict's plea for the suspension of sentence could be allowed only when they had served half of their sentence. "We are surprised that the high court invented a new proposition of law that has no basis," the bench said.

## Dowry complaint against husband's relatives quashed

**SUCHITRA KALYAN MOHANTY**
@ New Delhi

THE Supreme Court has quashed a dowry harassment complaint filed by a woman against her husband's relatives, noting that they were unnecessarily roped in and allowing the case to proceed would amount to a "vexatious trial".

"We have no hesitation in holding that the present appellants have unnecessarily been roped in the complaint without there being any specific allegation against them for any incident which had taken place between the husband and the wife during subsistence of marriage and the period when they stayed together at Kota," a two-judge bench of the apex court said in its order.

Referring to various rulings by the court in such kind of cases, the SC said, "The practice of involving relatives of the husband in dowry cases had been deprecated," noting that the marriage was dissolved in May 2012 and the complaint was filed three years that.

After examining the postmortem report, the bench observed that the deceased had suffered 14 injuries, and the cause of death was shock and haemorrhage. The court also noted the contention of the petitioner that the family members of the deceased's lover had beaten the deceased with sticks and rods with the intention of killing him, and it was a case of honour killing.

The bench clarified that the observations made herein will not influence the trial of the case, further directing the UP government to appoint a special prosecutor after speaking with the petitioner.

# 'Unwarranted': MEA calls out Dhaka's Murshidabad remarks

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE** @ New Delhi

INDIA has taken strong exception to Dhaka's comments on the recent spate of violence in West Bengal's Murshidabad district during protests against the Waqf amendment law. Terming the neighbour's remarks as "unwarranted" and an act of "virtue signalling," New Delhi advised Bangladesh to turn its attention inwards and ensure the safety and rights of minority communities within its own borders.

The diplomatic exchange was triggered by a statement from Shafiqul Alam, Press Secretary to the chief adviser of the interim government of Bangladesh, Muhammad Yunus, who expressed concern over the safety of Muslims in West Bengal. "We urge the Government of India and West Bengal to take all steps to fully protect the minority Muslim population," he said, in reference to the communal clashes that erupted on April 8.

Responding to the statement Ministry of External Affairs spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal termed the comments as a "barely disguised and disingenuous attempt" to draw false equivalence between the situation in India and the treatment of minorities in Bangladesh.

"We reject the remarks made by Bangladesh with regard to the incidents in West Bengal," he said, adding, "This is a barely disguised and disingenuous attempt to draw a parallel with India's concerns over the ongoing persecution of minorities in Bangladesh where the criminal perpetrators of such acts continue to roam free. Instead of making unwarranted comments and indulging in virtue signalling, Bangladesh would do better to focus on protecting the rights of its own minorities," the spokesperson said.

The Centre's sharp rebuttal to Bangladesh underscores the growing diplomatic friction between the two countries over minority rights.

India has previously expressed concern regarding alleged "attacks" on minority communities in Bangladesh. These concerns were reiterated by Prime Minister Modi during his first bilateral meeting with the head of Bangladesh's interim government Yunus in Bangkok earlier this month.

The External Affairs Minister had recently informed Parliament that there had been over 2,400 incidents of atrocities against religious minorities in Bangladesh in 2024 alone, since political unrest began. In 2025 so far, 72 such incidents have been reported.

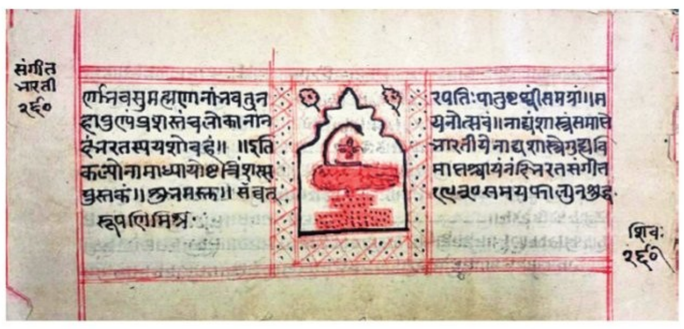
At a press briefing in Dhaka, Shafiqul Alam had said: "We categorically reject any efforts to link Bangladesh to the communal unrest in Murshidabad. We urge the Government of India and West Bengal to take all steps to fully protect the minority Muslim population."

**In Bengal...**

Despite Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee's request to reschedule his visit, West Bengal Governor CV Ananda Bose left for Malda on Friday, from where he is scheduled to reach trouble-torn Murshidabad on Saturday to assess the situation. "I will listen to the grievances of those in the camps, understand their needs and take proactive steps to redress them," Bose said after he reached Malda.

# Bhagavad Gita & Natyashastra in Unesco Memory of World Register

**PARVEZ SULTAN** @ New Delhi



TWO ancient Indian texts – the Srimad Bhagavad Gita, dated to the 1st century, and Bharat Muni's Natyashastra, a 5th-century treatise on performing arts – have been inscribed in UNESCO's Memory of the World Register.

Reacting to the development, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said that the 'global recognition' of a country's eternal culture is a proud moment for every Indian worldwide.

"A proud moment for every Indian across the world! The inclusion of the Gita and Natyashastra in UNESCO's Memory of the World Register is a global recognition of our timeless wisdom and rich culture. The Gita and Natyashastra have nurtured civilisation and consciousness for centuries. Their insights continue to inspire the world," Modi posted on 'X'.

The Bhagavad Gita, a Hindu scripture, is part of the epic poem Mahabharata. It is composed as a dialogue between Arjuna and Lord Krishna. Bharatmuni's Natyashastra is a foundational Sanskrit text on Indian dramaturgy and performing arts, considered the fifth Veda. It provides a comprehensive framework for various aspects of drama, including acting, stage design, music, dance, and the theory of rasa (emotional essence).

While announcing the inclusion of the manuscripts in documentary heritage collections, Union Culture Minister Gajendra Singh Shekhawat termed the development a historic moment for Bharat's civilisational heritage. "The Shrimad Bhagavad Gita and Bharat Muni's Natya Shastra are now inscribed in UNESCO's Memory of the World Register. This global honour celebrates India's eternal wisdom and artistic genius. These timeless works are more than literary treasures—they are philosophical and aesthetic foundations that have shaped Bharat's worldview and the way we think, feel, live, and express," he wrote on X.

With these two texts, India now has 14 inscriptions on the international register. The Unesco Memory of the World Register lists documentary heritage, which has been recommended by its International Advisory Committee, and endorsed by the Executive Board.

On Thursday, UNESCO added 74 new documentary heritage collections to its Memory of the World Register, bringing the total number of inscribed collections to 570.

According to UNESCO, among the newly inscribed collections, 14 pertain to scientific documentary heritage. "Documentary heritage is an essential yet fragile element of the memory of the world. This is why UNESCO invests in safeguarding... practices and maintains this register that records the broadest threads of human history," UNESCO director Audrey Azoulay said

# Don't use refined sugar in nutrition kits: Govt

**KAVITA BAJELI-DATT** @ New Delhi

IN a major development, the centre has directed all states not to use refined sugar, foods high in fat, salt, and sugar (HFSS), preservatives, colours, and flavours in supplementary nutrition provided to children, pregnant women, lactating mothers, and adolescent girls.

The advisory came after the Women and Child Development (WCD) Ministry found that the contents of Take Home Rations (THR) and Hot-Cooked Meals (HCM) across states and UTs provided to children, pregnant women, lactating mothers, and adolescent girls contain a high proportion of sugar, salt, and other items.

The detailed advisory issued by the WCD Ministry, a copy of which is with this paper, said that while providing the HCM and THR to different categories of beneficiaries under the Mission Poshan 2:0, the states should not use refined sugar and should use only jaggery for sweetening if needed.

"Inclusion of added jaggery should be restricted to less than 5% of total energy to avoid excessive intake of discretionary calories," the advisory issued by WCD Deputy Secretary Jyotika said.

"Use of foods high in fat, salt and sugar (HFSS) should be avoided for all age and gender groups as recommended by WHO and Dietary Guidelines for Indians. Use of salt may be limited," the advisory dated April 17 said.

The ministry also said states and UTs may consider designing THR recipes without adding salt and sugar so that the beneficiaries may use them according to their preference.

Welcoming the step, Dr Arun Gupta, Pediatrician and Convenor of Nutrition Advocacy in Public Interest (NAPi), a national think-tank on nutrition consisting of independent medical experts, paediatricians, and nutritionists, said the advisory was "long overdue."

"For the first time, the WCD ministry has acknowledged that added sugars, salt, and HFSS items in THR and HCM are a real concern. If implemented in letter and spirit, this will protect millions of children, pregnant women, and adolescent girls from diet-related non-communicable diseases," he told this newspaper.

Dr Gupta also urged the central government to include the definition of HFSS in supplementary advisory. "While the concerns are expressed on the use of preservatives, colours, and flavours, it might be useful to advise avoidance of prepackaged foods for all infants, young children and adolescents as they contain such ingredients that are mostly high in sugars/salt or fats."

According to Neelmani Singh, a public health nutrition expert, the government's push to eliminate added sugar from Take Home Rations under Mission Poshan 2.0 is a heartfelt effort to give kids a healthier start in life. "It's about protecting them from obesity, diabetes, and other health issues down the road while teaching them to enjoy food that's good for them," said Singh, who added that he wrote several letters to the WCD minister Annapurna Devi on this issue.

The guidelines also asked states to reduce the number of sweet recipes served in morning snacks and HCM.

**EXPERTS SAY**

Move will protect millions of children, pregnant women, and adolescent girls from diet-related non-communicable diseases

**TAKE-HOME RATIONS, HOT-COOKED MEALS IN VARIOUS STATES, UTs FOUND TO CONTAIN HIGH AMOUNTS OF SUGAR, SALT, AND OTHER ITEMS**

**ADVISORY TO STATES**

**Use of salt to be limited:** Consider designing Take Home Rations recipes without adding salt and sugar

- **No refined sugar:** If needed, use only jaggery for sweetening – but it should be restricted to less than 5% of total energy to avoid excessive calories intake
- Avoid foods high in fat, salt & sugar for all age and gender groups as recommended by WHO and Dietary Guidelines for Indians 2024 issued by ICMR-NIN
- Number of sweet dishes served in morning snacks and cooked meal to be reduced
- Ingredients used in supplementary nutrition should be safe and comply with all applicable provisions of Food Safety and Standards Regulations, 2011

**For the first time, the WCD ministry has acknowledged that added sugars, salt, and HFSS (high fat, salt, sugar) items in THR and HCM are a real concern.**

Dr Arun Gupta, Pediatrician

**Foods for infant nutrition should be free from preservatives, added colours, flavours and other synthetic ingredients and should comply with the provisions of Food Safety and Standards (Foods for Infant Nutrition) Regulations, 2020**

# Gandhi Sagar Wildlife Sanctuary to become African cheetahs' second home on April 20

**ANURAAG SINGH** @ Bhopal

**Kuno reserve currently houses 26 cheetahs**

Currently, the KNP has 26 adult cheetahs and cubs, including 17 in the wild and nine in the enclosures. Over seven decades after the fastest land animal became officially extinct in Indian wilds due to rampant hunting, eight Namibian cheetahs were flown to India and released at the KNP in September 2022, as part of the ambitious cheetah reintroduction project.

OVER two and half years after Kuno National Park (KNP) in 'tiger state' Madhya Pradesh's Sheopur district became the first home to African cheetahs in the country, the Gandhi Sagar Wildlife Sanctuary (GSWS) in Mandsaur district is set to become their second home.

Two adult cheetahs from KNP, possibly a South African male coalition – Prabhas and Pavak – will be relocated to the GSWS on April 20.

The official announcement in this regard was made at a meeting in Bhopal on Friday to review the implementation of the Cheetah Project in MP. The meeting was attended, among others, by Union forest minister Bhupender Yadav and MP Chief Minister Mohan Yadav.

Since last summer, the GSWS has been preparing the necessary infrastructure for the animals' habitat. It has built three big enclosures for them in a 64 sqkm area. "The first two arrivals, the South African male coalition from KNP, will be kept together in one big enclosure," an official at the sanctuary told this newspaper. As per National Tiger Conservation Authority, over ₹112 crore has been spent on the cheetah project, with 67% invested in MP.

While the male coalition will be shifted from KNP to GSWS (a distance of 300-odd km. separates them) on Sunday, more cheetahs will be translocated there in phases.

Additional cheetahs are expected from South Africa, Botswana, and Kenya. Four will likely be flown in from Botswana by May, and another four later. Negotiations with Kenya are also underway to translocate cheetahs to India.

An official stated on Friday that as the Gandhi Sagar Wildlife Sanctuary borders Rajasthan, both states have agreed to form an inter-state cheetah conservation complex.

Addressing the meeting, the CM revealed plans to enhance tourism at the KNP through improved direct road and air connectivity from Gwalior. He announced plans to develop a paved, all-season road from Gwalior to KNP and establish a tent city within the forests for tourists. While maintaining that the cheetah cubs born in MP have the highest survival rate in the world, the CM said, the GSWS offers an ideal environment for cheetahs.

The meeting was also informed about a state-of-the-art veterinary hospital and rescue center to be set up in Kuno with central assistance. The facility will serve cheetahs and support cattle care across the region.

The state will also tap into nature tourism's potential and involve more youth and women in wildlife tourism. Women self-help groups and 'Cheetah Mitras' (local volunteers aiding cheetah conservation) will be trained as tourist guides.

# 10 new livestock and poultry breeds notified, total number stands at 212

**JITENDRA CHOUBEY** @ New Delhi

THE government has notified ten new livestock and poultry breeds across various states, including buffalo, dogs, goats, ducks, donkeys, pigs, sheep, and yaks. They are now on the list of animal genetic resources registered by the National Bureau of Animal Genetic Resources (NBAGR) under the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR). The total number of registered breeds in India now stands at 212.

The new breeds have been recognised due to their special genetic importance. They possess distinctive characteristics, are well-adapted to local climates, and are numerically scarce. Recognising them will aid the government in formulating policies aligned with livestock needs.

The Department of Agricultural Research and Education, under the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare has acknowledged these breeds to enhance productivity, improve animal health and welfare, boost trade, and contribute to food security.

According to the data, there is one new breed of buffalo, two new breeds of dog and goat, and one breed each of donkey, duck, pig, sheep, and yak.

The buffalo breed, 'Manah', is native to Assam, particularly the Nalbari, Kamrup, Barpeta, and Goalpara districts. This mid-sized breed is valuable for milk production because it can perform draft work, such as ploughing and carting.

The two dog breeds are 'Gaddi' from Himachal Pradesh and 'Changkhi' from Ladakh. The former guards sheep and goats from predators and is nicknamed the 'Indian Panther Hound.' The latter is a large, powerfully built breed known for its strength and alertness.

The two goat breeds are Chaugarkha from Uttarakhand and Bundelkhandi from Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh. The Chaugarkha is a small, meat-purpose goat breed native to the temperate Kumaon region, whereas the Bundelkhandi is an indigenous breed suited for grazing and adapted to withstand extreme temperatures.

NEW LIST ANNOUNCED
Species | Breed | States
Buffalo | Manah | Assam
Dog | Gaddi | Himachal Pradesh
Dog | Changkhi | Ladakh
Donkey | Ladakhi | Ladakh
Duck | Tripureswari | Tripura
Goat | Chaugarkha | Uttarakhand
Goat | Bundelkhandi | UP & MP
Pig | Karkambi | Maharashtra
Sheep | Kheri | Rajasthan
Yak | Ladakhi | Ladakh

**MOB JUSTICE**

A man booked for rape was allegedly tied to a bullock cart, assaulted and paraded naked by locals in the Visheshwarganj area of this Uttar Pradesh district. Police registered a case after a video of the incident went viral.

1 BOOKED FOR RAPING FIVE-YEAR-OLD GIRL IN THANE

| INDIA | Max | Min | | Max | Min |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Ahmedabad | 39 | 23 | Mumbai | 32 | 27 |
| Bhopal | 41 | 26 | Panaji | 35 | 29 |
| Jaipur | 39 | 28 | Patna | 33 | 26 |
| Amritsar | 38 | 22 | Lucknow | 37 | 26 |
| Chennai | 34 | 29 | Port Blair | 29 | 27 |
| Kolkata | 31 | 27 | Imphal | 27 | 19 |
| Srinagar | 15 | 08 | Chandigarh | 36 | 23 |

# Rahul's plans to revamp Gujarat Cong hit hurdle

## AICC deploys unprecedented 183 observers to gauge political pulse

DILIP SINGH KSHATRIYA @ Ahmedabad

THE Congress party's ambitious state-wide restructuring initiative in Gujarat, spearheaded by senior leader Rahul Gandhi, is off to a rocky start. The party, struggling to regain its foothold in the state that has long remained a Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) stronghold, has initiated a "marathon exercise" to overhaul its district and city-level committees. However, murmurs from within suggest that the process may not go as smoothly as the high command envisioned.

At the core of this massive reorganisation, the All India Congress Committee (AICC) has deployed an unprecedented 183 observers—one national observer per city and district, each accompanied by four state-level leaders.

Their mandate is to gauge the political pulse at the grassroots, consult party workers, and submit reports that will inform the appointment of new district and city presidents and committee members.

However, internal fissures are already threatening to derail the process. Sources reveal that several appointed observers have raised objections to the districts assigned to them.

While logistical reasons such as travel challenges to distant regions are officially cited, insiders paint a more politically charged picture. Some leaders reportedly seek transfers to districts closer to their hometowns—not merely for convenience but for strategic influence.

Sources say the idea is to gain proximity to areas where they enjoy caste dominance or established networks, thereby positioning themselves advantageously for future ticket distribution and leadership stakes.

Others, unfamiliar with their assigned regions' social fabric and caste dynamics, are allegedly hesitant, fearing they may be exposed as out-of-touch and ineffective. This hesitation underlines a deeper malaise in the Gujarat Congress—its leadership's disconnection from ground realities and the growing tendency of leaders to prioritise personal clout over organisational renewal.

Gujarat Congress in-charge Mukul Wasnik denied any discontent within the ranks. "All observers are fully committed to the task. The exercise will be completed by May-end, and the final reports will guide the leadership in forming robust city and district units," he said.

Yet, the growing undercurrents of dissent suggest that unless the party addresses these internal issues transparently and firmly, the revamp may become another missed opportunity in a state where Congress's organisational machinery is already in tatters.

**Internal fissures throw a spanner in the works**

Internal fissures are threatening to derail the process. Several appointed observers have raised objections to the districts assigned to them. While logistical reasons such as travel challenges to distant regions are officially cited, insiders paint a more politically charged picture. Some leaders seek transfers to districts closer to their hometowns.

# Modi speaks to Musk on tech ties amid trade talks

JAYANTH JACOB @ New Delhi

PRIME Minister Narendra Modi on Friday held a phone conversation with Tesla and SpaceX CEO and a key advisor of President Donald Trump, Elon Musk, discussing opportunities for collaboration in technology and innovation.

The phone call comes amid ongoing trade negotiations and ahead of the upcoming visit of US Vice President J D Vance to India from April 21, as Musk-led ventures Tesla and Starlink also look to expand their presence in the Indian market.

Taking to X, Modi said: "Spoke to Elon Musk and talked about various issues, including the topics we covered during our meeting in Washington DC earlier this year. We discussed the immense potential for collaboration in the areas of technology and innovation. India remains committed to advancing our partnerships with the US in these domains."

In February, the prime minister had met Musk at DC during an official visit. Their discussions at the time covered key sectors including space, electric mobility, and technological innovation.

# 33 Maoists say farewell to arms in C'garh; 17 carried cumulative bounty of ₹49L

EJAZ KAISER @ Raipur

AT least 33 Naxalites, 17 of them carrying a cumulative bounty of ₹49 lakh, surrendered before security forces in Chhattisgarh's Sukma district on Friday, police said.

While 22 cadres, including nine women, turned themselves in before senior officials of the police and Central Reserve Police Forces (CRPF) earlier in the day, later 11 others, including two women, surrendered before police officials.

According to the officials, the Maoists were inspired by the state government's 'Niyad Nellanar' scheme and the Naxal Surrender Rehabilitation Policy 2025. The surrendered cadres cited disappointment with "hollow" and "inhuman" Maoist ideology and atrocities on local tribals, Sukma Superintendent of Police Kiran Chavan said.

The surrendered Naxalites included Muchaki Joga (33) — the deputy commander in PLGA (People's Liberation Guerrilla Army) — and his wife Muchaki Jogi (28), both of whom carried a reward of ₹8 lakh each. Two area committee members, Kikid Deve (30) and Dudhi Budhra (28), who carried a reward of ₹5 lakh each, also renounced the Maoist doctrine. The official said seven surrendered cadres carried a bounty of ₹2 lakh each, while another Naxalite carried a reward of ₹50,000.

The official said that under the new Chhattisgarh Naxal Surrender/Victim Relief and Rehabilitation Policy-2025, the state government has introduced 'Elvad Panchayat Yojna', which has a provision of sanctioning development works worth ₹1 crore to village panchayats that facilitate the surrender of Naxalites active in their area and pass a resolution declaring themselves Maoist-free. The surrendered Naxalites were provided assistance of ₹50,000 each, and they will be rehabilitated as per the policy.

**Forces recover rebels' explosives, laptops**

Meanwhile, a joint team of security forces comprising District Reserve Guards and Indo-Tibetan Border Police personnel out on anti-Maoist campaign inflicted 'economic and strategic' damage, recovering 11 laptops, ₹5 lakh in cash and explosives belonging to the Red rebels from the site of encounter in Narayanpur district about 400 km south of Raipur.

## JAIPUR DIARY

RAJESH ASNANI

Our correspondent in Jaipur

rajesh.asnani@newindianexpress.com

### A Rajput-Jat tussle brewing in BJP

Political circles are abuzz with rumours of a simmering tussle between two BJP leaders — Jyoti Mirdha and Rajasthan Health Minister Gajendra Singh Khimsar — both of whom hail from Nagaur. Mirdha, the granddaughter of Congress stalwart and Jat leader Nathuram Mirdha, joined the saffron party just before the last Lok Sabha elections. And she is keen to carve out her own space in the region. However, Khimsar — a heavyweight from the Rajput community — isn't pleased about it. Insiders claim the rivalry isn't just about political turf but also the old Rajput-Jat conflict that has shaped Rajasthan's power dynamics throughout history.

### HC turns up the heat on admn amid heatwave

As Rajasthan reels under a brutal heatwave, the high court is turning up the heat on the authorities concerned for failing to formulate measures to tackle the situation. It has taken suo motu cognisance of the matter and ordered the registration of a PIL to address the issue. Coming down heavily on the lax attitude of the administration, the court said, "Humans can't be treated like animals. And a lack of funds isn't an excuse to risk lives." Justice AK Dhand noted that some parts of the state are sizzling at 50.5 degrees Celsius. The court also ordered the Chief Secretary to form a coordination committee and issue a heatwave action plan.

### Cong's lacklustre protest over Herald chargesheet

Congress workers across the country have been up in arms over the naming of senior party leaders Sonia and Rahul Gandhi in a chargesheet filed by the Enforcement Directorate in the National Herald case. But the Rajasthan Congress' failure to lodge a strong protest in the matter has caused the grand old party much embarrassment. The protest in Jalore was a damp squib, as only 20 workers showed up. The rallies held in other districts weren't any bigger. Critics pilloried the party for its failure to mobilise its own workers behind the Gandhis. After facing heavy trolling, the Rajasthan Pradesh Congress Committee quietly deleted pics of the protests.

# Air hostess dies in car crash, friend booked for rash driving

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Bhopal

A 21-year-old air hostess with a private airline died in Bhopal after the car she was travelling in plunged into a canal on Thursday. The woman, identified as Harshita Sharma, was accompanied by two of her friends at the time of the accident. One of them — an MBA student named Jai — was behind the wheel.

The car was passing through the road near the Holy Cross School when a stray cow suddenly appeared in front of them. To avoid hitting the animal, Jai slammed on the brakes, leading the car to overturn and tumble into the Kolar canal.

Though Jai and the other friend, Sujal, were just slightly hurt, Harshita sustained severe head injuries. Her friends pulled her out of the car and rushed her to a private hospital, where she breathed her last on Friday morning.

Harshita's father, P Sharma, said he learnt about the incident from Harshita's friend Shivani only in the morning. By the time Harshita's family arrived at the hospital, she had already been declared brain dead.

A case of negligent driving has been registered against Jai, the Kolar police staff said. Further probe is under way.

# Army orders inquiry after J&K university professor alleges assault in Rajouri

FAYAZ WANI @ Srinagar

THE Army on Friday ordered an inquiry after a University professor accused the soldiers of assaulting him during checking of vehicles in a village in the border district of Rajouri, Jammu and Kashmir.

Dr Liyaqat Ali, an Assistant Professor at IGNOU in Delhi, stated that the four of them travelling in a vehicle were attacked by army personnel near the border village Laam in Nowshera, Rajouri district on Thursday.

"When they stopped our vehicle, we showed them our identity cards and I told them that I was an assistant professor. Without any reason or provocation, they beat us. I was hit in the head by the gunbutts causing head injuries," he said.

The video of Dr Liyaqat bleeding from his head while recounting the incident has gone viral on social media.

According to Liyaqat, the incident took place when he along with his relatives were returning to their place in Kalakote after attending a pre-wedding ceremony of one of their relatives.

An army man and an ITBP, who accompanied the professor, were also beaten by the army men.

Reacting to the allegations, Jammu-based defence spokesman said an incident has come to light wherein certain individuals were allegedly manhandled by Army men in Rajouri district.

"The Army had input on the likely movement of terrorists in a vehicle in this sensitive area. Accordingly, search operations were being conducted. Preliminary information suggests that the individual tried to snatch weapon from the soldiers on duty and initiated a scuffle with them," the spokesman said. He said an inquiry has been initiated and if any personnel are found guilty of misconduct, strict action will be taken.

**An army man and an ITBP were also thrashed**

According to Dr Liyaqat Ali, an Assistant Professor at IGNOU in Delhi, the incident took place when he alongwith his relatives were returning to their place in Kalakote after attending a pre-wedding ceremony of one of their relatives. An army man and an ITBP, who accompanied the professor, were also beaten up by the army men.

# Ajit supports 3-language policy, says Maha people must learn Hindi too

SUDHIR SURYAWANSHI @ Mumbai

MAHARASHTRA Deputy Chief Minister Ajit Pawar defended his government's decision to introduce Hindi as the third mandatory language in school and slammed the Opposition for creating an issue out of a non-issue.

Pawar said those opposing the state government's decision are raking up "unnecessary disputes due to a lack of real issues". He clarified in Pune, "Marathi is their mother tongue and will always have first preference in the state school syllabus. Opposition is unnecessarily creating the issue."

He said, "Some people are creating disputes over the Hindi language only because they have nothing else to do. English is widely used across the country; similarly, Hindi is spoken in many states. While there is a dispute over whether Hindi is the 'Rashtra Bhasha', I don't want to get into that."

Pawar said all three languages, Marathi, Hindi and English, are essential, but Marathi will always hold primacy in the State. "Marathi must remain intact and continue to grow," he said.

Applauding the Centre's role in promoting the language, Pawar said, "It was Prime Minister Narendra Modi who granted Marathi the status of a classical language, a decision that had been pending at the Centre for years. The NDA Government showed the courage to make it happen. The Marathi Bhasha Bhavan is also underway in Mumbai to further promote the Marathi language."

**Marathi will always have the first preference in the state school syllabus... English is widely used across the country; similarly, Hindi is spoken in many states. There is a dispute over whether Hindi is Rashtra Bhasha, I don't want to get into that**

Ajit Pawar, Deputy Chief Minister

The Maharashtra State School Education Department issued a Government Resolution mentioning the phase-wise implementation of the new curriculum based on the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 recommendations. As per this decision, Marathi will be taught as the first language, English as the second language, and Hindi as the third language in school.

MNS chief Raj Thackeray and the Congress opposed the decision. Thackeray said that they are Hindu and not Hindi and will not tolerate the encroachment of other languages over Marathi.

"The Centre's plans to 'Hindi-fy' everything to succeed in the State. However, we will not allow that to happen in Maharashtra. Despite our warning, if they impose Hindi, then we will burn the books brought to teach our students," he threatened.

Congress and left parties also opposed the decision, saying that apart from Marathi and English, no language should be mandatory in schools, and students should be given more options like foreign languages as well.

The three-language formula for classes 1 to 5 is a part of the new curriculum implementation under the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020.

The state school education department has declared a phase-wise implementation plan of the new curriculum framework designed as per the NEP 2020 recommendations for school education.

# Student kidnapped, thrashed & video shared on social media by 12 minors

NARENDRA SETHI @ Dehradun

IN a disturbing incident, a group of around 12 minors on scooters allegedly abducted a minor student heading to tuition. They took the victim to a secluded spot, brutally beat him with belts and sticks, and videotaped the assault.

According to police sources, they shared the video online reportedly to boost their social media fan following. "Social media has a dark side, and its repercussions are severely impacting the youth," said a police official.

Based on a complaint, the police registered a case against the 12 minors and launched a search operation. "We are taking this case very seriously and will ensure justice is served," said the investigating officer.

According to information received by the police, Munnet Rajput, a resident of Mohalla Sot in Roorkee, filed a complaint stating that his minor son, Riten Chauhan, was heading to tuition on Wednesday evening around 4 pm when around 12 boys on scooters allegedly stopped him in Ramnagar. They forcibly took him to a secluded spot in the Ramnagar industrial area and brutally beat him with belts and sticks.

The police were informed that the accused had preplanned the attack and started video-recording the incident as soon as they began beating Riten.

Despite a crowd gathering, the accused continued their brutal assault, even smashing the victim's mobile phone. They uploaded the video on a social media platform before fleeing.

Police Station House Officer of Gangnahar police station Amarjeet Singh confirmed that a case has been registered against three identified and nine unidentified minors. "We're investigating and identifying the attackers using the video footage," he added.

Singh said the police are taking the case seriously because of the premeditated nature of the attack and online dissemination.

**Muslim boy attacked for refusing Ram chant**

Kanpur: A 13-year-old Muslim boy accused another minor from the same locality of assaulting him for refusing to say "Jai Shri Ram" under Maharajpur police station area of Kanpur on late Thursday night. The victim claimed he was coerced to bow down and touch the feet of the accused. When the victim resisted, the accused stabbed him in the left leg.

# Reviving taste for scent of a book in Manipur

PRASANTA MAZUMDAR @ Guwahati

IN Manipur's Imphal valley, a quiet revolution is taking root—one with the scent of books, brews of black coffee, and the quiet determination of young minds.

In just two years, the valley has witnessed the rise of over 30 private and community-led commercial libraries, giving birth to a thriving culture of self-study and silent resilience.

Frequent internet shutdowns and curfews during the bloody ethnic conflict are believed to be among the reasons behind their birth. In 2023 alone, when the violence broke out, Manipur experienced the world's longest internet shutdown, totalling over 5,000 hours. Most of these libraries have sprouted in Imphal East, Imphal West, and Kakching districts.

They charge from ₹800 to ₹1,300 a month from visitors for services, including curated seating areas with indoor and open-air zones, 24/7 power backup and high-speed Wi-Fi internet, and books. They also offer clean amenities, safe parking, and, increasingly, attached cafes or tiffin counters.

One of them is 'Oasis,' which is 10,000 sq ft and features lush lawns, high-speed internet, dedicated study cabins, and outdoor zones. Sonny Chungkham, a public policy professional, founded it in the Imphal West district.

Imphal has also witnessed a boom in independent bookstores, pop-up book stalls, and literary events. Spaces like Ukiyo Book Store and Readers Book Store are drawing in new readers. The annual Imphal Book Fair and smaller book fests have also become popular.

"The demand for books has gone up, and people are genuinely curious—not just students, but young professionals, parents, even elders," says a bookseller in Thangal Bazar.

The library boom has been driven largely by local individuals and first-generation entrepreneurs—from recent graduates to UPSC aspirants, teachers, and small business owners.

# 'Thank you': Sexual abuse survivor to cops

PRASANTA MAZUMDAR @ Guwahati

A 16-year-old survivor of child sexual abuse in Assam has gifted a sketch to a policewoman as a tribute.

The officer helped her during the investigation of the case and motivated her to clear her Class 10 board exam.

"If every police is like Pratibha Baideo (elder sister), children like me will get a lot of help," the Assam Police posted on X on Friday quoting the girl.

It is worth noting that the child, who cleared the exam in the second division, found hope, strength and inspiration in sub-inspector Pratibha deputed at the Satgaon police station.

**10,000**
pages of records about Robert F Kennedy's 1968 assassination released on Trump's order

**GLOBAL WEATHER**

LR: Light Rain • HR: Heavy Rain • LS: Light Snow • TDS: Thundershower • LC: Light Cloud • SNY: Sunny

| | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Beijing | 30 | 14 | SNY | Los Angeles | 21 | 12 | LC |
| Colombo | 32 | 26 | LC | Melbourne | 27 | 15 | SNY |
| Dhaka | 36 | 25 | SNY | Moscow | 17 | 7 | LR |
| Dubai | 36 | 24 | SNY | New York | 8 | 5 | SNY |
| Houston | 27 | 19 | LC | Singapore | 18 | 17 | LR |
| Istanbul | 11 | 5 | LR | Toronto | 7 | 1 | LC |
| London | 18 | 6 | SNY | Washington | 20 | 8 | SNY |

**171 WOUNDED**

# Deadliest Trump-era strike kills 74 in Yemen

**DUBAI**

US airstrikes targeting an oil port held by Yemen's Houthi rebels killed 74 people and wounded 171 others, the group said on Friday, in the deadliest known attack under President Donald Trump's new military campaign against the Iranian-backed faction.

The strike on the Ras Isa port, which sent massive fireballs shooting into the night sky, represented a major escalation in the American effort by hitting oil facilities for the first time. Assessing the toll of Trump's campaign, which began March 15, has been difficult, as the US military's Central Command hasn't released any information, including its attacks' targets and how many people have been killed. The Houthis, meanwhile, strictly control access to attacked areas and don't publish complete information on the strikes, many of which likely have targeted military and security sites.

In a statement, Central Command said, "US forces took action to eliminate this source of fuel for the Iran-backed Houthi terrorists and deprive them of illegal revenue that has funded Houthi efforts to terrorize the entire region for over 10 years." "This strike was not intended to harm the people of Yemen, who rightly want to throw off the yoke of Houthi subjugation and live peacefully," it added. It did not acknowledge any casualties from the attack or offer any damage assessment.

Hours after the strike, the Houthis launched a missile toward Israel that was intercepted, the Israeli military said. Sirens sounded in Tel Aviv and elsewhere. Yemen's civil war, meanwhile, further internationalized, as the US alleged a Chinese satellite company was "directly supporting" Houthi attacks — a claim Beijing declined to directly comment on. *AP*

US Secretary of State Marco Rubio and Ukraine's Andriy Yermak at a diplomatic meeting at Elysee Palace in Paris on the Russia-Ukraine conflict Friday | AFP

# US may drop bid for Ukraine peace if talks stall: Rubio

Next week's London meet could decide Trump administration's involvement

**PARIS**

SECRETARY of State Marco Rubio said Friday that the US may "move on" from trying to secure a Russia-Ukraine peace deal if there is no progress in the coming days, after months of efforts have failed to bring an end to the fighting.

He spoke in Paris after landmark talks among US, Ukrainian and European officials produced outlines for steps toward peace and appeared to make some long-awaited progress. A new meeting is expected next week in London, and Rubio suggested that could be decisive in determining whether the Trump administration continues its involvement.

"We are now reaching a point where we need to decide whether this is even possible or not," Rubio told reporters. "Because if it's not, then I think we're just going to move on. It's not our war. We have other priorities to focus on."

He said the US administration wants to decide "in a matter of days." Rubio's comments stepped up pressure on both sides to reach a peace deal, even as the US and Ukraine made progress on a minerals agreement that Trump has sought to recoup billions of dollars in military assistance that Washington sent Kyiv since Russia's full scale invasion in February 2022. They also indicated the road to a complete truce will be long and mired with contention, despite US President Donald Trump repeatedly claiming on the campaign trail that he could end the war within a day. Trump said last month that he was "being a little bit sarcastic" when he claimed that.

Despite apparent impatience with the peace efforts, Rubio called Thursday's Paris talks constructive. He didn't single out Russia or Ukraine as blocking peace efforts. He said he informed Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov about the outlines that emerged, but wouldn't say how Lavrov reacted. When asked about Rubio's comments on Friday, Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov told reporters that "fairly complex" negotiations are ongoing between Russia and the US. *AFP*

# Trump govt probes Harvard foreign funds

**CAMBRIDGE**

PRESIDENT Donald Trump's administration said on Friday it sought Harvard University's records on foreign funding going back a decade and on some foreign ties, as per reports from Reuters. The request marks the government's latest escalation against the educational institution.

The Trump administration has launched a widely criticised crackdown on top US universities, including Harvard, targeting pro-Palestinian campus protests and a range of other culture war issues such as transgender rights and diversity, equity, and inclusion programs.

The letter — signed by House Oversight Committee chair James Comer and House leadership chair Elise Stefanik -- came with Trump seeking unprecedented levels of control over the country's oldest and wealthiest university. Comer and Stefanik castigated Harvard President Alan Garber for rejecting demands for supervision by the White House, which has canceled $2.2 billion in funding and threatened further reprisals.

Demonstrators with signs stand around the John Harvard Statue in Harvard Yard after a rally was held against President Donald Trump's attacks on Harvard University at Harvard University in Cambridge, Massachusetts | AFP

"Harvard is apparently so unable or unwilling to prevent unlawful discrimination that the institution, at your direction, is refusing to enter into a reasonable settlement agreement proposed by federal officials intended to put Harvard back in compliance with the law," they told Garber. "No matter how entitled your behavior, no institution is entitled to violate the law."

Trump — furious at Harvard for rejecting oversight of its admissions, hiring practices and political slant — told reporters the university's conduct had been "horrific." The president, who is in charge of every aspect of the federal government, said he was "not involved" in its fight with Harvard but had "read about it." "I think what they did was a disgrace," Trump told reporters at the White House. "They're obviously anti-Semitic and all of a sudden, they're starting to behave." Harvard is just the latest in a series of top universities and other institutions in the administration's crosshairs.

But while New York's Columbia University bowed to less far-ranging demands, Harvard flatly rejected the pressure, saying it would not "negotiate over its independence or its constitutional rights." Trump said Harvard should lose its government research contracts and tax-exempt status, while administration officials threatened to ban the school from admitting foreigners, who make up more than a quarter of the student body.

Trump has also targeted Brown, Cornell, Northwestern, Pennsylvania and Princeton universities, threatening each with freezes of between $175 million and $1 billion, according to US media. *AFP*

## ASIA MATTERS

**THAILAND**

### OVER 1M ATTEND MAHA SONGKRAN FESTIVAL

More than one million people joined Thailand's Maha Songkran World Water Festival from April 11–15, generating 1.58 billion baht, according to Deputy Spokesperson Anukul Phruksanusak. The event saw 999,810 Thai and 107,189 foreign revellers, with the government expecting 678 million baht in taxes. Highlights included parades, drone shows, EDM, and traditional arts. Part of the "Amazing Thailand 2025" campaign, the festival also boosted domestic travel interest. During the Songkran holiday, 5.27 million people visited Thailand, the tourism authority said.

**SINGAPORE**

### NG ENG HEN TO RETIRE FROM POLITICS

Singapore's longest-serving Defence Minister, Dr Ng Eng Hen, announced he will not contest GE2025, ending his 24-year tenure as MP for Bishan-Toa Payoh GRC. At a press conference on April 18, Dr Ng, 66, said it was time for leadership renewal. Transport Minister Chee Hong Tat will succeed him as anchor minister for the GRC.

**MALAYSIA**

### PUSH FOR TALENT PARTNERSHIP WITH HONG KONG

Malaysia and Hong Kong are exploring strategic cooperation in labour policy and human capital development to boost high-value economic growth. During a meeting with Human Resources Minister Steven Sim, Hong Kong's Labour and Welfare Secretary Chris Sun discussed collaboration on occupational safety, skills training, and workers' welfare. Sim highlighted Malaysia's urgent need for skilled technicians and engineers to support economic transition. Sun noted Hong Kong's efforts to attract young talent and expressed interest in deeper ties.

# Pilgrims trek desert to historic New Mexico church

**SANTA FE**

A unique Holy Week tradition is drawing thousands of Catholic pilgrims to a small adobe church in the hills of northern New Mexico, in a journey on foot through desert badlands to reach a spiritual wellspring.

For generations, people of the Upper Rio Grande Valley and beyond have walked to reach El Santuario de Chimayó to commemorate Good Friday.

Pilgrims, some walking for days, were on track to arrive Friday amid a forecast of cool temperatures and sprinkles of rain. Some travelers are lured by an indoor well of dirt believed to have curative powers. Throughout the year, they leave behind crutches, braces and canes in acts of prayer for infirm children and others, and as evidence that miracles happen. Easter week visitors file through an adobe archway and narrow indoor passages to find a crucified Nuestro Señor de Esquipulas at the main altar. According to local lore, the crucifix was found on the site in the early 1800s, a continent away from its analog at a basilica in the Guatemalan town of Esquipulas.

Chimayó, known for its artisan weavings and chile crops, rests high above the Rio Grande Valley and opposite the national defense laboratory at Los Alamos that sprang up in the race to develop the first atomic weapon.

# ISRAELI STRIKES KILL 25 AS NEW US AMBASSADOR TAKES OFFICE

Palestinians inspect the remains of a displacement tent hit by an Israeli airstrike overnight | AP

**WAR WATCH**
ISRAEL-GAZA: DAY 560

TOLL SO FAR
**51,995**

**DEIR AL-BALAH**

ISRAELI airstrikes across Gaza killed at least 25 people on Friday including children, hospital workers said, as the new US ambassador to Israel made his first public appearance in Jerusalem.

The dead included 15 people killed in three strikes on the southern city of Khan Younis, according to Nasser Hospital, which received the bodies. Ten people were killed in Jabaliya, including eight from the same home, according to the Indonesian Hospital, where the bodies were brought.

The strikes came a day after more than two dozen people died in Gaza as Israel continued attacks, pressuring Hamas to return the hostages and disarm.

US Ambassador to Israel Mike Huckabee on Friday appeared at the Western Wall, the holiest Jewish prayer site in Jerusalem's Old City. Huckabee inserted a prayer into the wall, which he said was handwritten by US President Donald Trump. "Those are his initials, DT," said Huckabee while showing the note to the media.

In his first act as ambassador, Huckabee said Trump told him to pray for the peace of Jerusalem. Huckabee also said every effort was being made to bring the remaining hostages held by Hamas home. A one-time presidential hopeful, Huckabee has acknowledged his past support for Israel's right to annex the West Bank and incorporate its Palestinian population into Israel but said it would not be his "prerogative" to carry out that policy.

During his first term, Trump recognized Jerusalem as Israel's capital over Palestinian objections and moved the embassy from Tel Aviv. Palestinian seek the eastern part of the city that Israel captured in the 1967 Mideast war as their future capital. Huckabee's arrival comes at a pivotal time in the 18-month war, as international mediators including the US are trying to get a broken ceasefire back on track. *AP*

## *Ex-soldiers' stir letters reveal deep war division*

TEL AVIV: When nearly 1,000 Israeli Air Force veterans signed an open letter last week calling for an end to the war in Gaza, the military responded immediately, saying it would dismiss any active reservist who signed the document. But in the days since, thousands of retired and reservist soldiers across the military have signed similar letters of support. The growing campaign, which accuses the government of perpetuating the war for political reasons and failing to bring home the remaining hostages, has laid bare the deep division and disillusionment over Israel's fighting in Gaza. By spilling over into the military, it has threatened national unity and raised questions about the army's ability to continue fighting at full force. It also resembles the bitter divisions that erupted in early 2023 over the government's attempts to overhaul Israel's legal system. AP

# US unveils new port fees on Chinese ships to challenge dominance

**WASHINGTON**

THE United States unveiled new port fees on Chinese built and operated ships Thursday, in a bid to boost the domestic shipbuilding industry and curb China's dominance in the sector.

The move — which stems from a probe launched under the prior administration — comes as the United States and China are locked in a major trade war over President Donald Trump's tariffs and could further ratchet up tensions. "Ships and shipping are vital to American economic security and the free flow of commerce," US Trade Representative Jamieson Greer said in a statement announcing the new fees, most of which will begin in mid-October.

Under the new rule, per tonnage or per container fees will apply to each Chinese-linked ship's US voyage, and not at each port as some in the industry had worried. The fee will be assessed only up to five times per year, and can be waived if the owner places an order for a US built vessel.

TARIFF TRACKER

Dominant after the Second World War, the US shipbuilding industry has gradually declined and now accounts for just 0.1 percent of global output. The sector is now dominated by Asia, with China building nearly half of all ships launched, ahead of South Korea and Japan.

The three Asian countries account for more than 95 percent of civil shipbuilding, according to UN figures.

There will be separate fees for Chinese operated ships and Chinese built ships, and both will gradually increase over subsequent years. For Chinese built ships, the fee starts at $18 per NT or $120 per container -- meaning a ship with 15,000 containers could see a whopping fee of $1.8 million. *AFP*

**EXPRESS READ**

### MOB KILLS AHMADIYYA MAN IN KARACHI ATTACK

Karachi: A mob killed an Ahmadiyya community member in Karachi after radical Islamists surrounded their place of worship. The attackers, from the Tehreek-e-Labbaik Pakistan (TLP), stormed the Saddar neighborhood, enraged over alleged Ahmadi prayers. The victim was beaten with sticks and bricks. Police detained around 25 Ahmadis for safety. The Ahmadiyya community faces ongoing persecution in Pakistan, with laws and violence targeting them for their beliefs. *AFP*

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**PUBLIC NOTICE**

It is hereby informed and requested the general public at large that, my client Smt. Vijaya Bakhru W/o. late Sri. Balwant Bakhru, Aged about 71 years, R/at #11A, Pelicon Grove, Shivanahalli Main Road, Near HDFC School, Yelahanka, Bangalore North, Bangalore - 560064, has lost the original General Power of Attorney dated 15/03/2012 executed by Sri. Dhrumil Shah and Smt. Bhavana Bakhru in favor of Dr. Balwant Bakhru and another General Power of Attorney dated 25/01/2025 executed by Sri. Dhrumil Shah in favor of Bhavana Bakhru pertaining to Plot bearing No.41 and 42 each measuring 2400 Sq. feet and Villa constructed thereon bearing No.25 type 'E', formed in the layout known as "Reviera" situated at Marsur Village, Kasaba Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore Urban District. That if somebody finds the documents listed below, is hereby requested to send it to below mentioned my address or produce before the Basavanagudi police station as already she has lodged police complaint in that regard. All persons are hereby informed not to deal or carry out any transaction with anyone on the basis of the said missing documents.

**PRAKASH PATIL**, Advocate
Flat No.S1144, Golden Woods Apt.
Sandal Wood Block, 1st Main 1st Cross,
Talacauvery Layout, Basavanagar,
Bangalore-560 037. Mob : +91 9035022987

**DOCUMENT LOST**

**I, Maya.V. Rathnam have Lost My Original Sale deed documents Situated in "Echangur Village of Hosur Taluk, Krishnagiri Dist. Doc No - 4754/1992, Sy No - 153/9, 154/1, Field No - 92, (Area Extend AC 0.22 Cents), Style of Layout - V.G.P Rose Land Phase III, (Old SRO Hosur) (Present SRO Bagalur), While Some Personal Work in B'lore Near Byappanahalli, Case Registered No - 1568371/2025. Finder Please Contact or Return to This Address, Maya.V.Rathnam, Do/No.15, Ganesha Nilaya, VS Raju Road, Kumara Park West Block 12, B'lore North Seshadripuram, B'lore. Phone - 7619282803**

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BENJAMIN DISRAELI

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

This is the General Public notice that, my client **Mr.Jogesh Mali** S/o.Mr.Jomaji Mali, Aged about 36 Years, Residing at No.4A, Indian Express layout, Virupakshapura, Vidhyaranyapura Post, Bangalore-97, is intending to purchase the below mentioned schedule property from Mr. R.Sriram S/o. Mr.V.RajaGopalan that he is the owner of the property bearing Site No.26, Katha No.26/26, out of Converted Sy No.210/1 of Kodegehalli Village, Yelahanka Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk, Vide Conversion No.B.Dis. ALN.SR(NA)170/1997-98 dated 10.11.1997 measuring on the Eastern Side 30 feet, on the Western Side 31 feet, on the Northern Side 49 feet and on the Southern side 41.9 feet, total 1384 Sq.ft, and bounded on: East by : Site No.20, West by : Road, North by : Site No.25 and South by: Site No.27 acquired through sale deed dated 22.08.2002 and registered as document No. BNG(U)YLNK/4427/2002-03, Book-I, Stored in CD No.19, in the office of the Sub-Registrar Yelahanka, Bangalore, free from all encumbrances. Any person/s objecting for the said sale or asserting any claim, right, title, interest in the above mentioned property or any part thereof, any manner, may put forth his/there claim/s in writing to the under signed, within Seven days from the date of publication of this Notice along with documentary proofs, after which period my clients, shall proceed accordingly. Note that, is no claims or objection are received intime, then my clients shall proceed with the execution of the sale Agreement on the basis that there are no subsisting claim or right over the schedule property come whomsoever

**NATARAJA, Advocate**
No.23, 1st floor, Sonnegowda Complex,
Kodigehalli Main Road, Bangalore-560092
(M) 9845874124

**GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA**
**OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CONSTRUCTION ENGINEER, BALANGIR (R&B) CIRCLE: BALANGIR**
***e - Procurement Notice***
**BID IDENTIFICATION No: CCE(R&B) BGR/01/ 2025-26**

Letter No-775 Dtd.17/04/2025

**B-34:** The Chief Engineer, Balangir (R&B) Circle, Balangir on behalf of Governor of Odisha invites percentage rate bid in double cover system in ONLINE MODE for the construction of works detailed in the table below from "B" & "A" Class Contractors registered with the State Governments and contractors of equivalent Grade/ Class registered with Central Government/MES/Railways for execution of Civil works. The proof of registration from the appropriate authority shall be enclosed along with the bid.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1. | Nature of Work | : | Building work & Road Work |
| 2. | No. of tender | : | Building work-2 Nos.& Road Work-1 Nos. |
| 3. | Tender Cost | : | Rs.10, 000/- |
| 4. | Class of Contractor | : | "B" & "A" Class |
| 5. | Date & Time of sale & Receipt of Bids | : | From Dt. 24.04.2025, 10.00 A.M. to Dt. 08.05.2025 up to 05.00 P.M. |
| 6. | Date of opening Bid | : | Dt.09.05.2025 at 11.00 A.M. |

7. The bidders have to participate in **ONLINE** bidding only. Further details can be seen from the website: **http://tendersorissa.gov.in.** All future corrigendum will be available on ONLINE MODE only.

OIPR-34131/11/0008/2526

**Sd/- Chief Construction Engineer, Balangir (R&B) Circle, Balangir.**

$677.8 bn
India's total forex reserve at the end of 11 April 2025 week, rising by $1.5 billion during the week.

# Infosys lays off 240 trainees on failing to clear internal test

UMA KANNAN @ Bengaluru

TWO months after firing nearly 400 trainees from its Mysuru campus, IT services firm Infosys has again laid off another 240 trainees after they failed to clear internal assessments.

All these trainees were recruited in October last year. As per sources, a few hundred more trainees might be fired as the next batch is awaiting their results next week. A couple of trainees this newspaper spoke to and Nascent Information Technology Employees Senate (NITES), which represents IT professionals, claim the number to be around 370. "They started calling 20 people (in batches) to a meeting room from Friday morning and it went on till 4 pm. We received termination letter and Friday was our last working day. Those staying in hostels have been asked to vacate by April 21," said a trainee.

Another trainee, a system engineer, said they have been expecting this (lay off) as all these trainees have waited for two years to join the company. "System engineers have been paid ₹3-3.5 lakh per annum and we are clueless as we need to search for a job again," a trainee from Maharashtra said.

The email (viewed by TNIE) sent on April 18 to these trainees read, "Further to the announcement of results of your final assessment attempt, please be informed that, you have not met qualifying criteria in Generic foundation training program' despite additional preparation time, doubt-clearing sessions, several mock assessments and three attempts." The company will provide external training to prepare for potential roles in BPM industry.

The email said one month pay, outplacement services and 24 weeks training programme on IT fundamentals for career pathway apart from transport and accommodation will be provided till the date of departure. This comes a day after Infosys announced its Q4 earnings. CEO Salil Parekh said the company has a rigorous way to test individuals and that it has been the same for over 20 years now.

# IT freshers' salary stagnates at ₹3L

## This is due to many factors such as oversupply of graduates, cyclical nature of biz, skill levels

UMA KANNAN @ Bengaluru

FOR at least a decade now, freshers' salary in the IT industry has remained between ₹3 lakh and ₹4 lakh per annum. HR experts attribute this to many factors including oversupply of engineers.

"The salaries of entry-level engineers at IT services firms have been flat over decades due to a combination of factors such as oversupply of engineering pass outs, cyclical nature of the business, lower skill levels among these engineers, education loan burden on these graduates, training investment required by IT enterprises, and high churn of these freshers post joining," Kamal Karanth, co-founder, Xpheno, a specialist staffing company, told TNIE.

IT services companies are the largest consumers of fresher engineering talent, and traditionally they have offered differentiated salaries based on skills of the trainees they hire. As per the latest All India Survey of Higher Education (AISHE) report on academic output, about 8.47 lakh engineers graduated from various streams in 2021-2022. Enterprises have a sufficient supply to choose from, and graduates are only happy to get a job, considering the significant number of students who take out student loans, he says.

"The starting salaries are from ₹3.6 lakh to ₹11 lakh, depending on the institute and the proficiency of the students they hire. As these companies hire a few thousand each year and train them for 6-9 months before they become billable, the IT services companies keep salaries competitive at the entry level, as not all hires make the cut in the final assessment post-training," he explains.

To a question on why freshers' salary has remained the same, Wipro chief human resources officer (CHRO) Saurabh Govil at the company's post-earnings conference said, "This is a demand-supply issue. It's not a Wipro-centric issue. It is a market-driven and industry-driven issue. I can only say at any level in the organisation, we will always pay competitive compensation and as things change, we will obviously be changing." Kapil Joshi, CEO, Quess IT Staffing, says while mid and senior-level salaries have seen notable growth, fresher salary has remained largely stagnant for over a decade.

"This is due to oversupply of graduates and the industry's continued focus on cost optimisation. This trend may gradually shift as demand rises for niche skills in areas like AI, machine learning, and cybersecurity. Freshers equipped with these specialised skills are likely to command higher starting salaries," he says.

### SATURATION POINT

IT firms offer differentiated salaries based on skills of trainees they hire

Cost optimisation is another factor that companies not paying higher

HR EXPERTS SAY OVERSUPPLY OF ENGINEERING GRADUATES ONE OF THE MAIN REASONS FOR PAY STAGNATION

Freshers' starting salaries range from ₹3.6 L to ₹11L

IT services firms keep salaries competitive at entry level, as not all hires make cut in the final assessment post-training

Wipro HR chief says this is a demand-supply issue

GCCs and FAANG companies pay almost double or three times to freshers

GCCs and FAANG hire only highly skilled ones in small numbers from top colleges

# NCLAT upholds insolvency plea against Byju's

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ Bengaluru

THE National Company Law Appellate Tribunal (NCLAT) has dismissed appeals filed by the BCCI and Byju Raveendran's brother Riju Raveendran, who is the board member of Byju's, seeking withdrawal of insolvency proceedings against the edtech firm and to allow a settlement between the firm and the cricket board.

They had challenged the February 2025 order passed by the Bengaluru bench of the NCLT, which directed their settlement proposal to be submitted before the new Committee of Creditors (CoC), which also includes US-based Glas Trust, the trustee representing lenders of Byju's.

Last year, BCCI had filed a petition against the parent company of Byju's Think and Learn over unpaid dues amounting to ₹158 crore. On July 16, the NCLT had admitted the firm into the Corporate Insolvency Resolution Process.

Recently, Byju's term loan lenders filed a lawsuit against founder Byju Raveendran, his wife and co-founder Divya Gokulnath and Anita Kishore (former chief strategy officer) in the US Bankruptcy court, claiming that each of them co-orchestrated and executed a lawless scheme to "conceal and steal $533 million of loan proceeds".

# Govt eases rules for obtaining GST registration

DIPAK MONDAL @ New Delhi

AFTER severe criticism from businesses and startups, the government has decided to ease the process of obtaining GST registration.

In an instruction issued to its officers, the Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) has asked them to strictly adhere to the prescribed list of documents required in registration application form. Requisite documents in specific cases to be uploaded with registration application form have also been delineated in the instructions. "Officers have been directed not to issue notices based on presumptive grounds, minor discrepancies, or for additional documents that are not essential for processing applications," reads the instruction issued by CBIC.

The indirect tax department has set clear timelines for processing applications that includes 7 working days for applicants flagged as non-risky on the common portal and 30 days for applicants flagged as risky on the common portal subject to physical verification. Officers have been directed to seek approval of concerned deputy/assistant commissioner in cases where documents apart from the listed documents are required to be sought.

The zonal principal chief commissioner/chief commissioners have been advised to devise mechanisms to monitor and issue suitable trade notices, wherever required. The CBIC has assured strict action against officers deviating from these instructions. As per Rajat Mohan, senior partner in chartered accountancy firm AMRG & Associates, instruction issued by CBIC is a much-needed reform that decisively addresses the practical challenges faced by genuine applicants in obtaining GST registration.

This clarification introduces consistency, eliminates discretionary practices, and affirms the government's commitment to a transparent and facilitative tax regime, says Rajat Mohan.

# 'No plans to levy GST on UPI'

NEW DELHI: The government has refuted reports that the government is considering levying GST on UPI transactions over ₹2,000, and termed such reports as completely false, misleading, and without any basis.

Finance ministry in a statement issued on Friday said GST is levied on charges, such as the Merchant Discount Rate (MDR), relating to payments made using certain instruments. "Since currently no MDR is charged on UPI transactions, there is consequently no GST applicable to these transactions," it said. The government has removed the MDR on Person-to-Merchant (P2M) UPI transactions from January 2020. *ENS*

# Crude oil import up by 4.2% to 242 MT in FY25; sourcing dependency increases

RAKESH KUMAR @ New Delhi

THE COUNTRY'S crude oil imports rose by 4.2% to 242.4 million tonne (MT) in FY25, according to the government data. The data also showed that India's crude oil import dependency increased slightly from 88.6% in March 2024 to 89.1% in March 2025.

In FY24, the country imported 232.7 MT, reflecting an increase of 9.7 MT. The import bill of crude and petroleum products increased from $156.3 billion in FY24 to $161 billion in FY25.

Gas imports saw an increase of 15.4% in the financial year ending March 2025, with total imports reaching 36,699 million standard cubic meters (MMSCM), compared to the previous year. In contrast, domestic gas production during the same period declined by 0.9%, falling to 36,113 MMSCM. The data also highlights a continued fall in domestic crude oil production. The total crude production dropped from 29.4 MT in FY24 to 28.7 MT in FY25.

Additionally, India's crude oil basket witnessed a steady decline in average prices, falling from $84.49 per barrel in March 2024 to $77.33 in February 2025, and further down to $72.47 in March 2025. The drop of over $12 per barrel within a year indicates that India is paying significantly less for imported oil, providing some relief to the national import bill.

The consumption also increased by 2.1% to 239.2 MT in FY25, compared to 234.3 MT in FY 24. High-speed diesel (HSD) consumption grew by 2.0%, Motor Spirit (MS or petrol) consumption showed a more substantial increase of 7.5%, and LPG consumption rose by 5.6%.

In terms of export, petroleum, oil, and lubricants (POL) products grew by 3.3% in FY25 compared to the previous year.

## ASIANOMICS

### MALAYSIA

**GDP GROWS AT 4.4%**

Malaysia's economy grew 4.4% in the first quarter of 2025 from a year earlier and the country's exports to the United States surged in March, data showed on Friday, as authorities warned that U.S. tariffs were creating uncertainty. The official advance GDP estimates showed the economy slowing from growth of 5% in the final quarter of 2024, with the statistics department saying domestic activity and demand had underpinned growth. Final first-quarter data is due on May 16. "Malaysia's GDP growth held firm amid persistent global headwinds, underpinned by resilient domestic fundamentals," Chief Statistician Mohd Uzir Mahidin said. He said strength in retail and wholesale trade, a good jobs market and improved demand for key exports had helped buffer the economy against global challenges. Separate data showed a stronger-than-expected 6.8% annual rise in exports in March, with shipments to the United States rising by 50.8% to a record 22.66 billion ringgit ($5.14 billion).

### INDONESIA

**TO INCREASE IMPORTS OF US FOOD AND COMMODITIES**

Indonesia will raise imports of the US food and commodities and reduce orders from countries where the Southeast Asian nation currently buys the products, chief economic minister Airlangga Hartarto told reporters in Washington. Airlangga is in the US as part of a delegation of senior officials to meet US counterparts for talks on a 32% tariff on Indonesian exports, which has been paused for 90 days. Indonesia has proposed raising its imports from the US by as much as $19 billion, including about $10 billion of energy imports, to eliminate its trade surplus with Washington and avoid tariffs threatened by the administration of President Donald Trump. "Indonesia plans to buy agricultural products including wheat, soybeans and soybean meal and increase purchases of capital goods from the US," Airlangga said at the presser on video conference platform Zoom.

### JAPAN

**BOJ WILL KEEP INCREASING RATES, SAY GUV**

Bank of Japan Governor Kazuo Ueda on Friday said the central bank will keep raising interest rates if underlying inflation accelerates toward its 2% target. But Ueda told parliament the BOJ will scrutinise "without preconception" whether the economy will move in line with its forecasts given uncertainty over the impact of US tariffs. Meanwhile, Japan's core inflation fell in March due to rises in food costs, data showed on Friday, complicating the central bank's task of weighing mounting price pressures against risks to the economy from higher US tariffs. The data comes ahead of the BOJ's policy meet on April 30-May 1, when the bank is set to keep rates steady at 0.5% and cut its growth estimates as US President Donald Trump's tariffs cloud the economic outlook. The core consumer price index (CPI), which includes oil products but excludes fresh food prices, rose 3.2% in March from a year earlier, government data showed.

# New builder must charge same GST as opted by former housing developer

DIPAK MONDAL @ New Delhi

THE Maharashtra Authority for Advance Ruling (AAR) has said that when a new builder takes over an under-construction housing project, they must follow the same GST rate that the previous builder (old promoter) had chosen.

Hearing an application by Godrej Residency Private Limited (GRPL), the Maharashtra AAR has said Godrej Residency must continue levying goods and services tax (GST) at an effective rate of 12% on all sales — including new and existing buyers — in a residential project it acquired from Neelkamal Realtors Towers Pvt Ltd. The ruling clarifies that GST rates for real estate projects are tied to the project itself, not the promoter, preventing Godrej Residency from switching to a lower 5% rate for new customers.

The dispute arose after Godrej Residency acquired the stalled "One Mahalaxmi" project in Mumbai's Vikhroli area through a December 2022 conveyance deed. The original promoter, Neelkamal Realtors, had opted in 2019 to pay GST at 18% (12% effective rate after 1/3rd land value abatement) with input tax credit (ITC). GRPL sought to bifurcate rates — 12% for existing buyers and 5% (without ITC) for new buyers—arguing the one-time GST option was promoter-specific.

However, the AAR emphasised that the 2019 notification's one-time option is irrevocable and project-centric. Citing CBIC guidelines and a Kerala AAR precedent, it ruled that ongoing projects retain their GST classification even if promoters change. The authority noted the project met all "ongoing" criteria -- commencement before 31 March 2019, partial bookings by that date, and no completion certificate.

The decision bars GRPL from adopting dual rates, ensuring ITC continuity for all buyers. It also highlights that unutilised ITC from Neelkamal Realtors remains non-transferable, requiring GRPL to manage compliance under the existing framework. Prior to 1 April 2019, builders were allowed to charge 12% GST on under-construction flats with the benefit of input tax credit (ITC).

However, a new GST provision introduced on 1 April 2019, offered a lower 5% GST rate for residential flats but without ITC.

**Godrej must levy 12% GST**

Hearing an application by Godrej Residency , Maharashtra AAR has said Godrej Residency must continue levying GST at an effective rate of 12% on all sales — including new and existing buyers — in a residential project it acquired from Neelkamal Realtors

# Govt appoints Shrivastava as revenue secy

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ New Delhi

ARVIND SHRIVASTAVA, a 1994-batch IAS officer from Karnataka cadre, has been appointed as new revenue secretary.

Prior to this, Shrivastava was serving as additional secretary in the Prime Minister's Office. In PMO, Shrivastava has handled work related to finance, corporate affairs, and NITI Aayog. He took charge of revenue department from Ajay Seth, who was holding additional charge after Tuhin Kanta Pandey was appointed Chairperson of the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi).

Shrivastava has held various important positions, including roles in the Budget and Finance departments and as joint secretary in the Karnataka government. He also brings international experience, having worked as a Development Officer at the Asian Development Bank.

The appointments panel has also cleared a series of other high-level appointments. Vumlunmang Vualnam, civil aviation secretary, has been appointed as secretary of the Department of Expenditure. He replaces Manoj Govil, who has been named secretary (Coordination) in the Cabinet Secretariat. Meeta R Locha has been appointed secretary of the National Commission for Backward Classes under the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment. K Moses Chalai will be secretary of the Department of Public Enterprises.

# Banks' net income likely to decline 4% on margin pressure due to rate cuts

BENN KOCHUVEEDAN @ Mumbai

BANKS are in for a bad quarter in March both in terms of net income and high pricing for liabilities, say analysts.

A preview of earnings of 19 listed banks is likely to show their net profit has declined by 4% yea-on-year in March quarter, mainly due to pressure on net interest margins (NIM) as a result of rate cut by the Reserve Bank, as per analysts. The profit decline is led by private sector lenders and not public sector lenders, the traditional laggards. Additionally, analysts expect a contraction in the NIM to the tune of 5-8 bps for the March quarter.

They expect NIM to remain under pressure in Q1FY26. As per Elara Capital, the first six months of FY26 may be characterised by strained liquidity, softer loan growth, pressure on NIM, and sustained vulnerability in Micro finance institutions (MFIs) and unsecured segments. There are more pain areas for banks as loan growth is expected to further slowdown amid low demand in certain secured products, stress in unsecured segment, and a high credit to deposit ratio system-wide. The only silver-line is that banks are set to gain from softening of bond yields, boosting their treasury income, they say.

As per analysts, private banks are set to see their net income declining by 5.3%, while state-owned banks may see it much lower at 2.5%.

The net interest income has been impacted due to moderation in credit disbursements and some policy transmission by way of lowering the prices of existing loans after the repo rate cut in the February review. However, treasury gains from softening yields may partly compensate for subdued net interest income in Q45, said Karan Gupta, a director and head of financial institutions at India Ratings.

**Credit growth slows due to decline in demand**

Brokerage firm Motilal Oswal said credit growth has slowed down to 11% untill March 21, from 16.5% a year ago because of contraction in demand in some secured products, stress in the unsecured segment, and a high CD ratio across the system. On the deposit front, growing Casa deposits continues to be a challenge.

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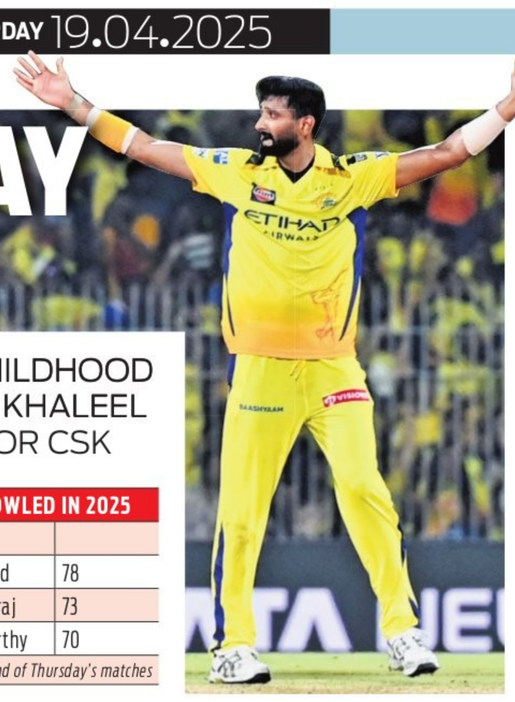
## Alcaraz enters Barcelona semis, Ruud bows out

**Carlos Alcaraz** battled into the semi-finals of the Barcelona Open on Friday with a 7-5, 6-3 win over Alex de Minaur after Casper Ruud's title defence was ended by Holger Rune. Norwegian Ruud lost 6-4, 6-2 to Rune as he suffered just a second defeat in eight meetings with the Danish player.

# POWERPLAY BOWLER



Khaleel Ahmed was bought for ₹4.8 crore by CSK this season | EXPRESS

### AFTER GETTING HELP FROM CHILDHOOD COACH IN OFF-SEASON, PACER KHALEEL HAS THRIVED TO STAND OUT FOR CSK

**FIROZ MIRZA** @ Mumbai

HIS team, Chennai Super Kings, might still be struggling to stay in contention for the playoff but this edition of the IPL is turning out to be special for the left-arm pacer Khaleel Ahmed. The 27-year-old from Tonk, Rajasthan was bought for ₹4.8 crore by the five-time champions in the mega auction. His effectiveness in the opening overs was perhaps one of the reasons for splurging that sum on him and he has reposed the faith put on him by the team management.

Till CSK's match against Lucknow Super Giants, Ahmed has struck in the innings' opening over four times in seven matches giving MS Dhoni-led side an early inroad. Be it the delivery that bowled MI batter Rohit Sharma through the gate or the one that sent back Delhi Capitals' opener Jake Fraser-McGurk. The same was the fate of Yashasvi Jaiswal of Rajasthan Royals and LSG's Aiden Markram when they faced Ahmed in the first over of the innings.

In the last edition as well, he was among the top wicket-takers in the powerplay with eight strikes in 14 innings. A regular in the league since 2018, Ahmed made his India debut in both ODIs and T20Is in the same year but lost his place in the national team soon. Despite being fast-tracked into the team due to lack of left-arm seaming options, he went out of favour due to inconsistent form and frequent injuries. Emergence of left-arm seamers like Arshdeep Singh also played a part in his long ouster from the team. He, though, made a comeback to the T20I side last year but is yet to cement his place in the team.

**DOT BALLS BOWLED IN 2025**

| Name | |
|---|---|
| Khaleel Ahmad | 78 |
| Mohammed Siraj | 73 |
| Varun Chakravarthy | 70 |

*Updated till the end of Thursday's matches*

Imtiyaz Ali Khan (L) with Khaleel Ahmed | SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

IPL 2025, however, can help Ahmed regain his lost place if he continues in the same vein for the remainder of the tournament. Given his situation, Ahmed knew the importance of the tournament and did a few but meaningful sessions with his childhood coach Imtiyaz Ali Khan before joining the CSK squad. "He trained here at the Tonk Cricket Academy for four days before heading to Chennai for the IPL," the childhood coach told this daily. A lot of things were discussed involving several aspects of bowling during those sessions. "In the IPL, the boundaries are small and wickets are flat. So the discussion was how to be effective in those conditions. In such situations, bowlers usually try to survive but it was decided to go for wickets instead of looking for survival. Once you do it, four wickets in four overs despite giving away 40 runs is a better figure than merely surviving. We used to start the session at 11 in the morning and used to go on till 5-6 in the evening. A few breaks were also given to have refreshments."

**11** WICKETS FROM SEVEN MATCHES AHMED HAS CLAIMED SO FAR IN THE TOURNAMENT

**4** TIMES HE HAS STRUCK IN THE FIRST OVER OF THE INNINGS IN THE SEVEN MATCHES SO FAR

**CSK SIGN BREVIS**

The Chennai franchise Kings signed Dewald Brevis for the injured pacer Gurjapneet Singh for the remainder of the IPL. He was the sixth-highest run-scorer with 291 at a strike rate of 184.17 in the 2025 SA20, helping MI Cape Town win their first title.

Ahmed and his coach worked on his non-bowling arm, release point and lengths where he has to bowl. "I have noticed a few things which have not been going right and worked on the same when he came here. His non-bowling arm was falling away sideways, So we worked on it by having a smooth and controlled run up and maintaining balance," added the coach.

Khan also trained him to bowl at the fourth and fifth stump as batters tend to access the leg side in the shortest format. "I advised him to focus bowling on 6-8 metre length outside off stump, usually at the fourth and fifth stump. It's difficult to pull the ball from that length to the leg side which the batters frequently do in T20 cricket these days. This will not only save boundaries but also fetch you wickets," the coach said.

Apart from his on field show, Ahmed was also in the spotlight for his showdown with Virat Kohli after CSK's loss against Royal Challengers Bengaluru a few weeks ago. The pacer had bowled a bouncer to the former India captain and in his follow through went close to Kohli. The RCB star later expressed his displeasure with the demeanour during the customary handshake after the match. The coach, however, defended Ahmed saying a pacer is bound to get aggressive while bowling. "A pacer will show his aggression while bowling irrespective of whom he is bowling at. Kohli instead of taking it otherwise should have taken that in his stride and motivated Ahmed," he said.

Overall, Khan is happy with his ward's show in the IPL so far and could be in attendance for the CSK's match against Mumbai Indians at the Wankhede Stadium on Sunday. He is in constant touch with Ahmed and hoping for another wicket in the first over from the speedster so that he can enjoy the moment from the stands.

# League's catching pandemic

**FIROZ MIRZA** @ Mumbai

DC's Ashutosh Sharma & SRH's Abhishek Sharma (L) were among the defaulters | AP

CHENNAI Super Kings' coach Stephen Fleming minced no words and came hard on the players for dropping plenty of catches in their loss against Punjab Kings a few days ago. Among the batters, who got reprieve was the young Priyansh Arya, who went on to hammer a century after being dropped twice.

"The game was really lost on the field, I thought we were sloppy in the field, and we just lacked accuracy under pressure at certain times," Fleming had said after the match. "We were put under pressure by a fine innings [from Arya] but we've got to be better than that in terms of shutting it down. So that's where the game got away from us. The catching has been poor, but it was poor from both sides tonight. Whether it was something in the light I'm not sure, but certainly for us that was an area of concern," he added. However, dropping catches is not confined to CSK alone. Other teams too have been found guilty of sloppy fielding. Gujarat Titans' batting coach Parthiv Patel admitted to this unusual situation that led to their loss against Lucknow Super Giants at Ekana Stadium the other day.

"What we need to improve upon is fielding, which can probably change the result of the game. We have seen that so far in this tournament. Fielding is something definitely we need to try and improve," was his response when asked in which department the team needs to improve.

In fact, every game there have been instances when more than two catches are dropped. Sometimes it's unimaginable to see star players dropping sitters. Take for instance, the drop by none other than otherwise a very good fielder Virat Kohli. It happened during Royal Challengers match against Rajasthan Royals when ever-reliable Kohli dropped a sitter at long off depriving bowler Suyash Sharma of a wicket.

The script remained the same during the Mumbai Indians clash against Sunrisers Hyderabad in Mumbai on Thursday. The match began with MI's Will Jacks dropping a chance offered by Abhishek Sharma at the first slip. Three balls later Karn Sharma dropped a catch of Travis Head at midwicket. SRH, meanwhile, returned the favour as Head dropped Jacks, who eventually went on to score 36 off 26 balls after claiming 2/14 from his three overs to claim the Player of the Match Award for his all-round show.

Till their match against PBKS, CSK have dropped 12 catches including the five in that match in Mullanpur. Their opponents were no different as they had dropped four catches in that contest. The total nine catches dropped in the match were the most in an IPL match according to *ESPNcricinfo's* ball-by-ball logs, surpassing the eight dropped catches by Kolkata Knight Riders (KKR) and SRH at Eden Gardens in 2023. During the same period, LSG and PBKS have dropped six catches each.

Former India fielding coach and co-founder of Coaching Beyond said there is no specific reason behind it. "Teams are not paying enough attention to fielding as a unit. They are relying on a few individuals to do the job on the field. It's costing them dearly," Sridhar told this daily when enquired about the sloppy fielding in the ongoing IPL so far.

The ever increasing number of dropped catches meant the catch efficiency of teams has gone down considerably with every poor outing on the field. The catch efficiency is calculated by the number of successful catches divided by the total number of catch opportunities during the match. The result is then expressed in percentage. Understandably, CSK, PBKS and RR have the worst catch efficiency in the tournament so far. Credit goes to those who dropped sitters.

**EXPRESS READ**

### Veer enters semis of World Squash C'ship

KUALA LUMPUR: Indian squash player Veer Chotrani advanced to the semifinals of the World Championship Qualifying Event (Asia) after logging a come-from-behind win over home favourite Mohammad Syafiq Kamal here. The second-seeded Chotrani prevailed 9-11, 11-6, 11-6, 11-7 against his sixth-seeded opponent to make the last-four stage.

### Ukrainian tennis player seeks legal justice

PARIS: Ukrainian tennis player Lesia Tsurenko said she will "seek justice in court" after claiming she had suffered "moral abuse" from a senior official at the WTA. The 35-year-old has spoken frequently about the problems of competing on tour since the Russian invasion of Ukraine in February 2022. She withdrew from a match at Indian Wells in 2023 against Belarusian Aryna Sabalenka following a panic attack after talking to the then WTA chief executive Steve Simon.

### National race walking competition from today

CHANDIGARH: The national race walking competition begins here from Saturday, providing a good platform to the participants to earn berths in the Asian Athletics Championships and the Worlds. Two-time Olympian and national record holder, Priyanka Goswami, will look to dominate the women's 20km event at the picturesque Sukhna Lake. The competition has attracted more than 200 athletes from across the country.

### Golfer Tapendra wins Calance Open

NEW DELHI:Overnight leader Tapendra Ghai hung on to his lead, returning an even-par 70 on the final day to clinch the ₹1 crore Calance Open title here on Friday. The 29-year-old Gurugram golfer, who came into the final day leading by four strokes, signed off for the week with a total of 17-under 263 (64-67-62-70) to prevail by one shot.

# Following rain, pain for RCB camp

**ENS** @ Bengaluru

RCB's star batter Virat Kohli was sent back early by PBKS on Friday | ALLEN EGENUSE J

ONLY a couple of boundaries from Tim David saved Royal Chllangers Bengaluru from the ignominy of crashing to being bowled out for less than 49, the lowest ever total in a completed Indian Premier League fixture. Shortened games, especially for sides batting first at the Chinnaswamy Stadium, can be difficult to tackle because you just never know what will be a good score, how the surface will play and whether the rain will come back.

The hosts, still searching for their first win at home in 2025, had to consider all these challenges as soon as Punjab Kings opted to bowl first in a 14-overs-a-side game after a typical tropical storm rolled into the city.

Phil Salt bashed the first ball for a boundary but that was the high point of their innings. Post that, batters came and hurriedly left the exit, like they had a flight to catch on Saturday morning (they actually do as they, thanks to the quirk of the fixture computer, face Punjab in Mullanpur on Sunday afternoon). But that can only partly explain the way they batted as all of the top six — including Virat Kohli — allowed the match situation to dictate their style of play. Each of the first six wickets came thanks to across the line swipes or being holed out in the deep.

It was a chaotic from the very beginning and the visitors were also smart with their bowling changes on a slightly slow surface with some purchase for spinners. Once the pacers had done the damage, Punjab, who gave Harpreet Brar a rare start, picked up two wickets.

After the left-arm spinner claimed two in as many balls, the hosts were reduced to 9/63 (they were 7/42). But the Australian David hit Brar for three consecutive maximums to close out the innings on a 26-ball 50. Thanks to his ball-striking, they finished with 95.

In the second essay, Bengaluru fought back with their bowlers as Josh Hazlewood raised visions of an unlikely win.

But Nehal Wadhera calmed the nerves with a cameo (33 n.o off 19 balls) and the visitors won with five wickets and 11 balls to spare. The victory means Punjab join Delhi Capitals with 10 points apiece.

**Brief scores:** RCB 95/9 in 14 ovs (David 50 n.o, Patidar 23; Jansen 2/10, Chahal 2/11) **lost to** PBKS 98/5 in 12.1 ovs (Wadhera 33 n.o, Priyansh 16; Hazlewood 3/14).

**TIME FOR RASHID TO FIND HIS MOJO**

Amongst the 22 men about to take stage at Ahmedabad, Rashid Khan seems to be one of the few players who has not lived up to his expectations. However he will have Sai Kishore to thank for, who has singlehandedly led the Titans' spin attack in its multi-faceted bowling.

## *DOUBLE DHAMAKA*

As Delhi and Gujarat have taken the IPL by storm, they lock horns on Saturday, in what could be a possible rehearsal of the final, going by their league forms. Rajasthan Royals and Lucknow Super Giants seek for momentum in another fixture. A look...

**2** SAI SUDARSHAN HAS MISSED OUT ON A FIFTY ONLY ON TWO OCCASIONS SO FAR THIS SEASON, ATTESTED TO HIS CONSISTENT PERFORMANCES

**WILL SANJU FEATURE?**

After hurting his ribs in their previous outing against the Mumbai Indians, skipper Sanju Samson's availability will be closely looked at. Halfway through the season, the T20 specialist is yet to knack up runs for his team, which is desperately needed

**GT vs DC @ AHMEDABAD | 3.30 PM** | **RR vs LSG @ JAIPUR 7.30 PM** | **LIVE ON STAR SPORTS AND JIOHOTSTAR**

# Age-group boxers set for Asian battle

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE**

According to the Interim Committee, the boxers departed on April 17

SENDING age-group boxers for a continental meet was one of the main objectives of the recently-formed Interim Committee, a panel that was formed by World Boxing to oversee the day-to-day affairs of boxing in the country. The Interim Committee has ticked that box as India will field a 56-member youth squad — 30 U-15 and 26 U-17 pugilists — in the Asian U-15 & U-17 Boxing Championships being held in Amman, Jordan.

The official draw of the competitions were scheduled to be held on Friday. The bouts are expected to start from April 19 and go on until April 30.

As highlighted by this daily earlier, apart from conducting the elections, keeping the boxers active is one of the main goals of the Interim Committee. With future Olympics in mind, the committee was intent on giving youngsters this opportunity. "The Interim Committee has upheld the values of the Boxing Federation of India by ensuring every athlete gets the support and opportunity to shine. It acted swiftly to resolve the deadlock and secured India's participation in this critical championship. The team, accompanied by coaching staff and officials, travelled to Amman on April 17 (...)," the committee said in a release.

**EPIC NIGHT OF FOOTBALL**

# *Double strike in dying seconds rekindle Man United's Europa dreams*

**AGENCIES** @ Paris

Man United players celebrate Harry Maguire's (5) goal on Thursday | AFP

HARRY Maguire headed in the winner as Manchester United produced an astonishing extra-time comeback on Thursday to beat Lyon and set up a Europa League semifinal against Athletic Bilbao, while Tottenham Hotspur are also through to the last four after beating Eintracht Frankfurt.

Maguire's header in added time in extra time gave United a 5-4 win on the night at Old Trafford, and a 7-6 triumph on aggregate. They appeared to be cruising towards the last four when, after a 2-2 first-leg draw last week in France, Manuel Ugarte turned in an Alejandro Garnacho cutback on 10 minutes and then Diogo Dalot fired home in first-half injury time.

Bruno Fernandes had hit the bar with a brilliant volley in between, and United had chances to kill the tie before Corentin Tolisso's headed goal on 71 minutes gave Lyon hope.

Nicolas Tagliafico then levelled the scores on the night, and in the tie, with 12 minutes of normal time remaining, his shot crossing the line before goalkeeper Andre Onana got a hand to it. Lyon then had Tolisso sent off for a second yellow card just before the end of normal time, but they went 3-2 up when Rayan Cherki fired in following a fine run by Malick Fofana in the 105th minute.

And the French side looked to be going through when Alexandre Lacazette netted a penalty to make it 4-2 on the night, and 6-4 on aggregate, five minutes into the second half of extra time following a foul on Fofana by Luke Shaw. However, almost from the restart the hosts were awarded a penalty of their own following a VAR check for a foul on Casemiro, and Fernandes converted to give them renewed hope.

A fine finish by substitute Kobbie Mainoo levelled the tie again in the 120th minute, seemingly setting up a penalty shoot-out, but Maguire had the last word as he headed in Casemiro's cross to spark delirium on the pitch and in the Old Trafford stands.

United will play Athletic in the last four, with the first leg in Bilbao, in their first European semi-final since losing the 2021 Europa League final on penalties to Villarreal.

**Bilbao two good**

In Bilbao, Athletic beat Rangers 2-0 to progress to the last four following a goalless draw in the first leg in Glasgow. Oihan Sancet and Nico Williams scored for Athletic.

**Bodo/Glimt versus Spurs**

Tottenham beat 2022 Europa League winners Frankfurt 1-0 on the night in Germany to advance 2-1 on aggregate.

It is Tottenham's first European semi-final since their run to the Champions League final in 2019, and they will play Bodo/Glimt in the last four. The Norwegians beat Lazio 3-2 on penalties in Rome after another remarkable tie finished 3-3 on aggregate.

## WESTERN RAILWAY - AHMEDABAD DIVISION

### CONSTRUCTION OF TWO LANE ROAD OVER BRIDGE

**E-Tender Notice No. : CPM/GS/ADI/ROB-27/25-26/01 E Tender No. :** CPM/GS/ADI/ROB-27/25-26/01 Deputy Chief Engineer (Gati Shakti), Western Railway, Ahmedabad for and on behalf of President of Union of India invites e-Tender for following work. **(1) Name of work with its location :** Construction of Two Lane Road Over Bridge with 1x 51 m Composite steel Girder including Approaches with viaduct and RE walls in lieu of LC No. 27 at Rly km 530/9-11 between Chharodi and Vasan Iyava on AHMEDABAD-VIRAMGAM section of Ahmedabad Division under Gati Shakti Unit, Western Railway. **(2) Approx. cost of work :** ₹44,86,81,266.16 **(3) Earnest money to be deposited :** ₹23,93,400/- **(4) Tender form fees :** Nil **(5) Completion period of work :** 18 (Eighteen) Months including Monsoon. **(6) Closing date & time of E-tender :** Date: 22.05.2025 Time: 15:00 Hrs **(7) Website particulars Notice Board location where complete details of tender can be seen & address of the office :** Office of Chief Project Manager / Gati Shakti, "A" Wing, 4th Floor, Nirman Bhavan, Near DRM office, Western Railway, Ahmedabad -382345 **Website :** www.ireps.gov.in 017

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## UNIMONI FINANCIAL SERVICES LIMITED

**RO: N.G. 12 & 13 Ground Floor, North Block, Manipal Centre, Dickenson Road, Bangalore - 560 042. CIN No.U85110KA1995PLC018175**

### PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the Public that Auction of pledged Gold Ornaments will be conducted by Unimoni Financial Services Limited on **22.04.2025** at 10:00 am at the respective centers given below. The Gold Ornaments to be auctioned belong to Loan Accounts of our various Customers who have failed to pay their dues. Our notices of auction have been duly issued to these borrowers. The Gold Ornaments to be auctioned belong to Overdue Loan Accounts of our various Customers mentioned below with branch name.

**Auction Centre Address & Loan Nos: BANGALORE - MARATHAHALLI (BMI - Site No 21, Shop No 3 &4, Istmtk Reddy Complex, Outer Ringmarathahalli, Bangalore -560037, Contact no : 9845996600) 2124424.**

*(Reserves the right to alter the number of accounts to be auctioned &/ postpone / cancel the auction without any prior notice.)*

## KARNATAKA STATE POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD

# 49, Parisara Bhavana, Church Street, Bengaluru- 560 001
Ph : 080-2558 6520 / 2558 9112 Fax : 080-2558 6321
Email: contact@kspcb.gov.in Website : https//kspcb.karnataka.gov.in

**No:PCB/307/SEO/MINES/EPH/2025-26/202 Dated:17.04.2025**

### ENVIRONMENTAL PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

**Sri. Tulajabhavani Stone Crusher** has proposed to undertake Building Stone Quarry project of production capacity 70,095 TPA on a total land Area of 3.21 Acres Patta land at Sy. No. 17/A of Uchchangidurga Village, Harapanhalli Taluk, Vijayanagara District. This project proposal covered under cluster location as per Office Memorandum issued by the MoEF& CC, GoI vide No. F. No. L-11011/p175/2018-IA-II(M) dated:12.12.2018.

As per the Environment Impact Assessment Notification dated: 14.09.2006 and Amendment dated: 01.12.2009, the project proponent has to obtain prior Environmental Clearance from the State Level Environment Impact Assessment Authority and is required to go through the process of Environmental Public Hearing. As per the Terms of Reference (ToR) letter No. SEIAA 47 MIN 2024 dated: 03.08.2024 issued by the SEIAA, Karnataka and request letter of the project proponent dated:20.01.2025 and the Environmental Officer(I/c), Regional Office, Vijayanagara letter dated:28.03.2025 intimating the date, the Environmental Public Hearing is being conducted by the KSPCB.

**The details of the project are as follows:**

| | |
|---|---|
| 1. | **Name & Address of the Project Proponent: Sri. Tulajabhavani Stone Cruhser, Prop: Shri. Mantesh Naik L, S/o. Lokya Naik, Pathala Dibba, Uchchangidurga Village, Harapanahalli Taluk, Vijayanagara District.** |
| 2. | **Location of the proposed Quarry Project: Sy. No.17/A of Uchchangidurga Village, Harapanhalli Taluk, Vijayanagara District.** |
| 3. | **Details of proposed Project:** Proposed to undertake Building Stone Quarrying project of production capacity 70,095 TPA in the total land Area of 3.21 Acres. |
| 4. | **Date, time and venue of Environmental Public Hearing: Date: 20.05.2025 (Tuesday) Time: 10:30 AM, Place: Project site, Sy. Nos. 17/A of Uchchangidurga Village, Harapanhalli Taluk, Vijayanagara District.** |
| 5. | **Places of availability of project documents as per EIA Notification, which is kept open to public are:** (a) Office of the Deputy Commissioner, Vijayanagara District, Vijayanagara. (b) Chief Executive Officer, Zilla Panchayat, Vijayanagara District, Vijayanagara. (c) District Industries Centre, Vijayanagara District, Vijayanagara. (d) Thasildar Office, Harapanahalli Taluk, Vijayanagara District (e) Gram Panchayat Office, Uchchangidurga Gram Panchayat, Harapanahalli Taluk. (f) Office of the Regional Office, Karnataka State Pollution Control Board, Vijayanagara. (g) SEIAA Karnataka (Ecology and Environment), Department of Forest, Ecology and Environment, Government of Karnataka, Room No. 709, 7th Floor, 4th Gate, MS Building, Bengaluru – 560 001 (h) **HELP DESK,** Karnataka State Pollution Control Board, Ground Floor, No. 49, Parisara Bhavana, Church Street, Bengaluru – 560 001 |

**NOTE:** Suggestions, views, comments and objections of interested bonafide residents, environmental groups and others located at project site who are likely to be affected by the proposed project are invited, within 30 days from the date of publication of this Notification. They can also make oral/written/ E-Mail suggestions to the Karnataka State Pollution Control Board/Chairman, Environmental Public Hearing Committee **(Deputy Commissioner, Vijayanagara District, Vijayanagara).** Interested public can participate in the Public Hearing at the above place.
**For details please visit our Website: kspcb.karnataka.gov.in.**

**Sd/-**
**Member Secretary**

## PUBLIC NOTICE

The General public are hereby notified that, my clients have entered into an agreement to purchase the Schedule property from its owners: **Sri.J.PRUTHVI** S/o Sri B.V.Jagannath and his daughter **Ms. ANAGHNA,** residing at the Schedule property.

Apart from the said Owners, if any other person/s have any manner of right, title, interest or claim over the Schedule property or any part thereof by way of sale, lease, sub-lease, mortgage, gift, lien, charge, trust, maintenance, easement, pre-emption or otherwise howsoever, they are hereby called upon to file their objection/s or claims with the undersigned (along with the photocopies of the documents based on which they rely for asserting their rights), **within 10 days** from the date of publication of this notice. Objection/s received thereafter will not be binding on my clients.

**SCHEDULE**

All that piece and parcel of the residential property bearing Municipal No.1 (Old No.11), PID No.49-46-1, measuring East to West 52¾ feet and North to South 140 feet in all measuring 7406 Sq.feet, with a building thereon comprised of Ground and First Floor, situated at 3rd Cross, Shankarapuram, Basavanagudi, Bangalore-560004 and bounded on:

East by : Property belonging to L.Muniswamy Reddy;
West by : Property belonging to Venugopal Naidu;
North by : 3rd Cross Road;
South by : Conservancy.

Sd/- **GOUTAM CHAND S.F,** Advocate
**GOUTAM ASSOCIATES**
No.60, 2nd Floor, Kanakapura Road,
Basavanagudi, Bangalore – 560 004

## बैंक ऑफ़ बड़ौदा Bank of Baroda — Bank of Baroda

Girinagar Branch, # 5, 50 Feet Road, Avalahalli Extension, Girinagar, Bengaluru – 560026
Contact No.080-26740805/26749686, email: vjgina@bankofbaroda.co.in

### NOTICE TO BORROWER

**(UNDER SUB-SECTION (2) OF SECTION 13 OF THE SARFAESI ACT, 2002)**

'At your request, Bank has extended credit facilities to the below mentioned individuals against secured assets through its **Bank of Baroda.** The relevant particulars of the property on which you have created security interest by execution of security agreement/documents & creation of mortgage by way deposit of title deeds are furnished hereunder. As the operation and conduct of the financial assistance/ credit facilities have become irregular, the debts have been classified as Non Performing Assets in accordance with the directives/guidelines issued by Reserve Bank of India consequent to the default committed by the borrowers in repayment of the principal debt and interest thereon. As the demand notice sent by register AD calling upon you, was un-served/not acknowledged, this publication is now issued.

**1.Name and Address of the Borrower/Co-Borrower/Mortgagor/Guarantor: (1) Mr. Hanumantha Rao Medarametla,** # 202, Akshaya Towers Madeenaguda, Behind Varun Motors Miyapur, Hyderabad, Telangana-500049. And **(2) Mrs. Radha Rao Medarametla** # 202, Akshaya Towers Madeenaguda, Behind Varun Motors Miyapur, Hyderabad, Telangana-500049.

| Sl No | Nature And Type of Facility | Limit (Rs.) In lakhs | Rate of Interest | O/s as on 31.03.2025 (Inclusive of interest upto 31.03.2025) |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 01 | Term loan- Home loan | 85.00 | 9.50 | Rs.68,00,643.91 Dr |

**Schedule :** The following security was mortgaged vide memorandum of deposit of title deeds no. MDPD-1-00067/2019-20 dated 02.04.2019 at sub registrar Shivajinagar.

**SCHEDULE 'A' Property : Item no. 1 :** All that piece and parcel ofResidential converted land bearing Sy. No.73/5, measuring 1-acre, 17 Guntas (converted vide official Memorandum dated 6/7/2013, bearing No. ALN(EVH)SR/443/2012-13, issued by Deputy Commissioner, Bangalore District Bangalore), situated at Balagere Village, VarthurHobli, Bangalore East Taluk, Bangalore. Bounded as; East by : Remaining portion of Sy.No.73/5, West by : Remaining portion of Sy.No.73/5, North by : Land bearing Sy.No.73/4, South by : Land bearing Sy.No.73/6.

**Item no. II :** All that piece and parcel of Residential converted land bearing Sy.No.73/6, measuring; 21 Guntas (converted vide official Memorandum dated 6/7/2013, bearing No. ALN(EVH)SR/443/2012-13, issued by Deputy Commissioner, Bangalore District Bangalore), situated at Balagere Village, Varthur Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk, Bangalore. Bounded as; East by : Remaining portion of Sy.No.73/6, West by : Remaining portion of Sy.No.73/6, North by: Land bearing Sy.No.73/5, South by : Road

**Composite Schedule Property:** All that piece and parcel of Residential converted land bearing Sy.No.73/5, measuring; 1-Acre 17Guntas and Residential converted Land Bearing Sy.No.73/6 measuring 21 Guntas, both the properties totally measuring 1 Acre 38 guntas, (converted vide official Memorandum dated 6/7/2013, bearing No.ALN(EVH)SR/443/2012-13, issued by Deputy Commissioner, Bangalore District, Bangalore), Presently Bruhat Bangalore Mahanagara Palike Katha No.359/73/5/73/6/17, situated at Balagere Village, Varthur Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk, Bangalore. Bounded as; East by : Remaining portion of Sy.No.73/5 and 73/6, West by : Remaining portion of Sy.No.73/5 and 73/6, North by : Land Bearing Sy.No.73/4, South by : Road.

**SCHEDULE ' B ' Property:** 328 Sq.feet Undivided Share, right, title and interest in the Schedule 'A' Property (Proportionate to the Schedule C property).

**SCHEDULE ' C ' Property:** Residential Apartment bearing No.002 in the Ground floor, Block-B, in Wing 'C', admeasuring a super built area of 1224 Sq.Ft. consisting of 2 bedrooms in the multistoried Residential Apartments building known as "Sri Krishna Excel Stone" constructed over the Schedule 'A' property inclusive of proportionate share in the common areas such as passage, lobbies, lift, staircase and other areas of common area (including half portion in depth of the joints between of ceiling of the Apartment and floor of the Apartment above it, internal and external walls between such levels) and the building is of RCC roofing as per specification appended hereto with separate electricity, common water and sanitation including all rights, title, interest, privileges appurtenances together with a covered car parking space slot to be earmarked and the apartment is bounded on: East by: Corridor, West by: Open to Sky, North by: Open to Sky, South by: Corridor.

**Amount Outstanding : Rs.68,00,643.91 Dr (Rupees Sixty Eight Lakhs Six Hundred Forty Three and Paisa Ninety One Only) as on31.03.2025 + Interest from 31.03.2025 + Other Charges.**

**NPA Date : 31.03.2025** **Demand Notice Date : 04.04.2025**

If you fail to repay the aforesaid sum with interest and incidental expenses within 60 days from the date of this notice, Bank shall exercise all or any of the rights detailed under sub section (4) of the section 13 of the SARFAESI Act. You are also put on notice that in terms of sub section 13 of section 13, you shall not transfer by sale, lease or otherwise the said secured assets detailed above without obtaining written consent of the Bank. This notice is without prejudice to the Banks rights to initiate such other action or legal proceedings as it deem necessary under any other applicable provisions of law.

Date : 18.04.2025 — Sd/- Chief Manager
Place : Bengaluru — Bank of Baroda

## Karnataka Urban Water Supply & Drainage Board

**Office of the Chief Engineer Dharwad**
Sir.M. Vishveshvarayya Road, Jalamandali Compound, Dharwad-580 001
Tel No: 0836-2447090 E-mail: kwbcen@gmail.com

### NOTICE INVITING TENDER (Through e-Procurement Portal only)

Tenders for the following works are invited (two tender document system) through e-Procurement portal (https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in) from the eligible Agency / contractors who satisfy the Technical & Financial eligibility criteria. This office Tender Notification No: 139 Dated:15-04-2025.
**(1)** Replacement of 375mm Dia PSC & 406mm Dia 6.4mm thick MS Pipe with 457mm Dia 5.6mm thick MS Raising Main of BASAVANABAGEWADI town under AMRUT 2.0 (TRANCHE 3) including Operation & Maintenance for a Period of 5 Years Including 1 year DLP through Design, Build, Operation and Transfer DBOT Mode. Lumpsum Tender No Variation. INDENT NO. KUWSDB/2024-25 /WS/WORK_INDENT320/CALL-2. **(2)** Improvements of water supply system to Karwar Town with Gangavali River as Source under AMRUT 2.0 (Tranche-3) including Operation & Maintenance for a Period of 5 Years Including 1-year DLP through DBOT Mode. Lumpsum Tender No Variation. INDENT NO. KUWSDB/2025-26/WS/ WORK_INDENT338. For further information visit e-procurement portal or Office of the Chief Engineer, K.U.W.S & D. Board, Dharwad may be contacted.

DIPR/Dwd/52/2025-26/DeshpandePublicity — **Sd/- CHIEF ENGINEER, KUWS & D BOARD, DHARWAD.**

## PUBLIC NOTICE

We, **SRI. P SHIVANANDHA,** Aged about 62 Years, S/o Late Pilla Reddy,
**SRI. H.V SRINIVAS,** Aged about 54 Years, S/o Late, Venkatakrishnaiah,
**SRI. MUNIRAJU,** Aged About 64 years, S/o Late Lagumaiah,
**SRI. R NAGARAJA REDDY,** Aged about 65 years, S/o Late Rama Reddy,
**SRI.V NAGESH,** Aged about 44 years, S/o Late Venkataswamy,
**SRI. RAVEENDRA BABU V,** Aged about 46 years, S/o Late Venkataswamy,
**Represented by their General Power of Attorney Holder, SRI. M ARUN,** aged 45 years, S/o. Murthy, issuing this Public Notice that the General Public are hereby informed that we have filed a suit bearing Vide **OS.NO.500/2025. IN THE COURT OF II ADDL SENIOR CIVIL JUDGE AND JMFC ANEKAL** and the honorable court has granted **TEMPORORY INJUNCTION ORDER on 7th April 2025** in respect of the schedule property.
Further cautioned that the General Public hereby informed that not to deal with above said persons in general and the above case is filed on few defendants namely **Sri. SIRAJ, Smt. HEENA KOWSER, Sri ABDUL SALIK, Ms. SABURA TAJ & M/S. AJMERA HOUSING CORPORATION BANGALORE. Project namely AJMERA IRIS.** in particular, in respect of the schedule properties, in spite of this public Notice if anybody deals with the above said persons particularly **M/S. AJMERA HOUSING CORPORATION BANGALORE. Project namely AJMERA IRIS** are doing so at their own risk and we are in no way responsible for acts committed by the persons who are dealing with them.

**SCHEDULE OF THE PROPERTIES**

**ITEM No.1 Belonging to Sri. P Shivanandha**
All that piece and parcel of the Agricultural land bearing Sy No.30/1, measuring 0.02.02 Guntas, property is situated at Chikkanagamangala village, Sarjapura Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore District and bounded on: East by : Factory, West by : Road, North by : Remaining Property of Gowramma, South by : Property belongs to Nagaraj Reddy.
**ITEM No.2 Belongong to Sri. H.V Srinivas:**
All that piece and parcel of the Agricultural land bearing Sy No.30/1 (old No.30), measuring 0.00.08 Guntas, property is situated at Chikkanagamangala village, Sarjapura Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore District and bounded on: East by : Road, West by : Property belonging to Manorama Hegde, North by : Property belonging to Muniraju, South by : Property belonging to Muthanallur Shanthamma.
**ITEM No.3 Belonging to Sri. Muniraju:**
All that piece and parcel of the Agricultural land bearing Sy No.30/1, measuring 0.01.08 Guntas, property is situated at Chikkanagamangala village, Sarjapura Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore District and bounded on: East by : Road, West by : Property belonging to Manorama Hegde, North by : Property belonging to Gowramma, South by : Property belonging to H.V Srinivas.
**ITEM No.4 Belonging to Sri. Nagaraj Reddy and others:**
All that piece and parcel of the Agricultural land bearing Sy No.30/1, measuring 0.05 Guntas, property is situated at Chikkanagamangala village, Sarjapura Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore District and bounded on: East by : Property belonging to Gowramma, West by : Property belonging to Gowramma, North by : Property belonging to Gowramma, South by : Road.
**Bangalore, Dated 18th April 2025.** **M. ARUN,** Mobile No.90350 70098

## POSSESSION NOTICE

Whereas, the authorized officer of **Jana Small Finance Bank Limited** under the Securitization And Reconstruction of Financial Assets And Enforcement Of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13 (2) read with rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002 issued **demand notices** to the borrower(s)/ Co-borrowers(s) calling upon the borrowers to repay the amount mentioned against the respective names together with interest thereon at the applicable rates as mentioned in the said notices within **60 days** from the date of receipt of the said notices, along with future interest as applicable incidental expenses, costs, charges etc. incurred till the date of payment and/or realisation.

| Sr. No. | Loan No. | Borrower/ Co-Borrower/ Guarantor/ Mortgagor | 13(2) Notice Date/ Outstanding Due (in Rs.) as on | Date/ Time & Type of Possession |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 31889630000264 | 1) Mr. Shashi Kumar M, 2) Mrs. Munirathnamma M | 10.02.2025 Rs.3,76,948.78 (Rupees Three Lakh Seventy Six Thousand Nine Hundred Forty Eight and Seventy Eight Paisa Only) due as on 06-02-2025 | Date: 16-04-2025 Time: 02:20 PM Symbolic Possession |
| | **Description of the Property:** All that piece and parcel of property bearing portion of House List No.188/144 and 144/1, situated at Babusapalya Gramathana Chelikere Dakhale, K.R.Puram, Bangalore Taluk, Now comes under BBMP limits, and **Bounded by the: East by:** Venkateshappa's House, **West by:** Sri K.Raju's Property, **North by:** Road, **South by:** K. Krishnappa's house. Measuring East to West: 20 Feet and North to South:15 Feet. Total measuring 300 Sq.feet. | | | |

Whereas the Borrower's/ Co-Borrower's/ Guarantor's/ Mortgagors, mentioned herein above have failed to repay the amounts due, notice is hereby given to the Borrower's mentioned herein above in particular and to the Public in general that the authorised officer of **Jana Small Finance Bank Limited** has **taken possession** of the properties/ secured assets described herein above in exercise of powers conferred on him under Section 13(4) of the said act read with Rule 8 of the said rules on the dates mentioned above. The Borrower's/ Co-Borrower's/ Guarantor's/ Mortgagors mentioned herein above in particular and the Public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the aforesaid properties/ Secured Assets and any dealings with the said properties/ Secured assets will be subject to the charge of **Jana Small Finance Bank Limited.**

**Place: Bangalore** — **Sd/- Authorised Officer,**
**Date: 19.04.2025** — **For Jana Small Finance Bank Limited**

**JANA SMALL FINANCE BANK** (A Scheduled Commercial Bank)
**Registered Office: The Fairway, Ground & First Floor, Survey No.10/1, 11/2 & 12/2B, Off Domlur, Koramangla Inner Ring Road, Next to EGL Business Park, Challaghatta, Bangalore-560071.**

## CITY UNION BANK LIMITED

CUB TRUST AND EXCELLENCE SINCE 1904
**Credit Recovery and Management Department**
**Administrative Office:** No.24-B, Gandhi Nagar, Kumbakonam - 612 001. **E-Mail id:** crmd@cityunionbank.in, **Phone:** 0435-2432322, **Fax:** 0435-2431746

### RE-TENDER-CUM-AUCTION SALE NOTICE UNDER SARFAESI ACT 2002

The following property/ies mortgaged to **City Union Bank Limited** will be sold in Re-Tender cum-Public Auction by the Authorised Officer of the Bank, under Rule 8 (6) & 9 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, under the SARFAESI Act, 2002, for recovery of a sum of **Rs.83,30,907/- (Rupees Eighty Three Lakh Thirty Thousand Nine Hundred and Seven only)** as on **15-04-2025** together with further interest to be charged from **16-04-2025** onwards and other expenses, any other dues to the Bank by the borrowers / guarantors **No.1) M/s. Sree Anjana Enterprises, No.124, 1st Floor, 1st Cross, JNC Road, KHB Colony, Koramangala, Bangalore - 560095. Also at, M/s. Sree Anjana Enterprises, 4th Cross, No.82, Ground Floor, 7th Block, Bangalore Urban, Bangalore - 560095. No.2) Mrs. S. Gayathri, W/o. S.M. Krishna, No.142, 3rd Cross, 6th Block, 18th Main, Koramangala, Bangalore - 560034. Also at, Mrs. S. Gayathri, W/o. S.M. Krishna, No.413, Ground Floor, 1st Cross, 7th Block, Koramangala, Bangalore - 560095. No.3) Mr. S.M. Krishna, S/o. Anjaiah Setty, No.142, 3rd Cross, 6th Block, 18th Main, Koramangala, Bangalore - 560034. Also at, Mr. S.M. Krishna, S/o. Anjaiah Setty, No.413, Ground Floor, 1st Cross, 7th Block, Koramangala, Bangalore - 560095.**

**Immovable Property Mortgaged to our Bank**
**(Property Owned by Mr. S.M. Krishna, S/o. Anjaiah Setty)**

All that piece and parcel of the site bearing K. No. 323/24, Situated at Hulimangla Village, Jigani Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Measuring East to West on the Northern Side 43 Feet and on the Southern Side 61 Feet and North to South 40 Feet. Total 2,080 Sq.Ft. and bounded on the : East by : Road, West by : The Property No.25, North by : The Property No.23, South by : Road.

**Reserve Price : Rs.30,00,000/-**
**(Rupees Thirty Lakh only)**

**RE-AUCTION DETAILS**

| Date of Re-Tender-cum-Auction Sale | Venue |
|---|---|
| **07-05-2025** | **City Union Bank Limited, Bengaluru-Koramangala Branch,** 92, Z Square, Ground Floor, Jyothi Nivas College Road, Industrial Layout, 5th Block, Koramangala, Bengaluru, Bengaluru Urban - 560034. Telephone No.080-25630439, Cell No.9342874657 |

**Terms and Conditions of Re-Tender-cum-Auction Sale :**
**(1)** The intending bidders should be present in person for the auction and participate personally and give a declaration in writing to the effect that he/she is bidding for himself / herself. **(2)** The intending bidders may obtain the Tender Forms from **The Manager, City Union Bank Limited, Bengaluru - Koramangala Branch, 92, Z Square, Ground Floor, Jyothi Nivas College Road, Industrial Layout, 5th Block, Koramangala, Bengaluru, Bengaluru Urban - 560034. (3)** The intending bidders should submit their bids only in the Tender Form prescribed in sealed envelopes addressed to **The Authorised Officer, City Union Bank Ltd.,** together with a Pay Order / Demand Draft for an EMD of **10%** of the Reserve Price, drawn in favour of **"City Union Bank Ltd.", on or before 02.00 p.m.** on the date of Tender-cum-Auction Sale hereby notified. **(4)** For inspection of the property and other particulars, the intending purchaser may contact **Telephone No.080-25630439, Cell No. 9342874657. (5)** The property/ies are sold on "As-is-where-is", "As-is-what-is" and "whatever-there is" basis. **(6)** The sealed tenders will be opened in the presence of the intending bidders at **03.00 p.m.** on the date of Tender-cum-Auction Sale hereby notified. Though in general the sale will be by way of closed tenders, the Authorised Officer may, at his sole discretion, conduct an Open Auction among the interested bidders who desire to quote a bid higher than the one received in the closed tender process, and in such an event, the sale shall be conferred on the person making highest bid. The sale, however, is subject to confirmation of City Union Bank Limited. **(7)** The successful bidder shall have to pay **25% (inclusive of EMD paid)** of the sale amount **immediately** on completion of sale and the balance amount of **75%** within **15 days** from the date of confirmation of sale, failing which the initial deposit of **25%** shall be forfeited. **(8)** The Sale Certificate will be issued by the Authorised Officer in favour of the successful purchaser only after receipt of the entire sale consideration within the time limit stipulated herein. **(9)** The successful purchaser shall bear the charges/fees payable for conveyance, such as stamp duty, registration fee etc., as applicable under law. **(10)** The successful bidder should pay the statutory dues (lawful house tax, electricity charges and other dues), TDS, GST, if any, due to Government, Government Undertaking and local bodies. **(11)** The Authorised Officer shall have all the powers to accept or reject the bids or postpone or cancel the sale without assigning any reason whatsoever.

**Place : Kumbakonam, Date : 17-04-2025** — **Authorised Officer**

**Regd. Office:** 149, T.S.R. (Big) Street, Kumbakonam, Thanjavur District, Tamil Nadu - 612001, **CIN -** L65110TN1904PLC001287, **Telephone No.**0435-2402322, **Fax:** 0435-2431746, **Website:** www.cityunionbank.com

## NOTICE OF LOSS OF BOND CERTIFICATE(S)

**NOTICE** is hereby given that the following Bond Certificate(s) issued by **Krishna Bhagya Jala Nigam Limited** Bengaluru have been lost or misplaced or stolen and I/We the registered holder(s) thereof have applied to the Company for the issue of Duplicate certificate(s)

| Folio No. | Bond Certificate Numbers | No. of Bonds | Distinctive Numbers | Name of registered Holder(s) |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **KBD596186** | **122263** | **one** | **1811839** | **RAMESH KUMAR JAIN LATA JAIN** |

The public is hereby warned against purchasing or dealing in any way, with the above Bond certificate.
Any person (s) who has/have any claim(s) in respect of the above said certificate should lodge such claim(s) with the company at its liaison office at; **Krishna Bhagya Jala Nigam Ltd,** PWD Office Annexe, 3rd Floor, KR Circle, Bangluru.560001 within **15 days** of the publication of the notice, after which no claim will be entertained and the company will proceed to issue duplicate bond certificates.

**Name(s) Bondholder(s)**
Place: Bangalore — **1. RAMESH KUMAR JAIN**
Date: 18/04/2025 — **2. LATA JAIN**

## Karnataka Tourism Infrastructure Limited

**(A Government Undertaking)**
**No. 3, 4th Floor, Embassy Icon, Infantry Road, Bangalore - 560001, Ph. 080- 22352525**

ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: ಕೆ.ಟಿ.ಐ.ಎಲ್/K.S.T.D.C/ಬಿ.ವಿ/ಕ.ವಿ/01/2024–25 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 17.04.2025

### TENDER NOTIFICATION

Karnataka Tourism Infrastructure Limited, Bangalore Invited the Respective Tenders for Development of Karnataka Tourism at (Karnataka public procurement portal) **https://www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in.** The details of the Tender & Calendar of Events are available at **https://www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in.** Portal.
**Work Name :** Repairs and Improvements works of Roof top (PoP) Open Restaurant and Room to Mayura Bhuvaneswari, Kamalapura, Hampi Unit, Hospet Taluk, Vijayanagara District. (estimated cost Rs.12.75 lakhs). **Indent No** : KTIL/2025-26/BD/WORK_INDENT27. **Event Date Description** : As per tender documents uploaded in KPPP portal.
Tender Details are available for in download E-procurement Portal **(https://www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in)** from **19.04.2025.** Postponement of Calendar of events (if any), subsequent notification, changes, amendments and selection/ rejection of proposal shall be intimated only through Karnataka public procurement portal and will not be published in newspapers. KTIL reserves the right to accept or reject any or all the tenders received without assigning any reasons thereof.

**Sd/-**
**Executive Engineer and Tender Inviting Authority,**
DIPR/CP/256/Zen/2025-26 — **Karnataka Tourism Infrastructre Limited**

## STATE BANK OF INDIA

**STRESSED ASSETS RECOVERY BRANCH (05173)**
**# 11/90, 3rd Floor, Near Old Shivaji Theatre, Opp. Trust Well Hospital, J.C. Road, Bangalore-560002.**
**Email Id : sbi.05173@sbi.co.in**

### POSSESSION NOTICE (For Immovable Property) [Under Rule 8(1)]

**A/c. No.'s : 35176519935 & 41312470365**

Whereas, the undersigned being the Authorised Officer of the **State Bank of India,** under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (No 3 of 2002) and in exercise of the powers conferred under section 13 (2) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, issued a Demand Notice dated **30.01.2025,** calling upon the **borrower : Shri Vijay** .P S/o. Late Shri Paul D'Souza, No. 98/41, Ground Floor, 3rd Main Road, Vyalikaval, Malleswaram, Bangalore-560003. **Also at : i)** Employee ID: 010818, M/s. Human Resources Department, Writer Corporations, Writer Relocations, 41, Dickenson Road, Bangalore 560042. **ii)** Flat No. 1004 & 1005, Ground Floor, "R R LIVINGSTON", Kothihosahalli Village, Yelahanka Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk, Bangalore 560092. **2) M/s, Timala Motors, Rep. by its proprietor : Sri Vijay .P** S/o. Late Paul D'Souza Cresent Complex, 1863/3, Thanisandra Main Road, Bharath Nagar, Manayata Tech Park, Kothanur, Bengaluru- 560077 to repay the amount mentioned in the notice being **Rs. 2,10,18,675/-** (Rupees Two Crore Ten Lakh Eighteen Thousand Six Hundred Seventy Five only) as on 28.01.2025 and future interest & expenses thereon within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

The borrower / mortgagor having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower/mortgagor and public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him under sub-section (4) of section 13 of Act read with Rule 8 of the Security Interest Enforcement Rules 2002 on this **17.04. 2025.**

The borrower in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of **State Bank of India, SARB, JC Road, Bangaluru** for an amount of **Rs. 2,10,18,675/-** (Rupees Two Crore Ten Lakh Eighteen Thousand Six Hundred Seventy Five only) as on 28.01.2025 and further interest from 29.01.2025 plus, costs etc thereon.

The borrower's attention is invited to provisions of sub-section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

**DESCRIPTION OF THE IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES**

**Schedule "A" Property :** All that piece and parcel of residentially converted lands totally measuring 14,623 Sq. feet in Survey No. 38 of Kothihosahalli Village in Yelahanka Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk, Bangalore and bearing BBMP Khata No. 724/38, 2 & 3, 4 & 5 of Sahakara Nagar, Bangalore 560092. Converted vide Deputy Commissioner's Order No. B.Dis.ALS.SR(N)140/1991-92 and dated 24.03.1992 and the property is **bounded as under : East By :** NTI Layout, **West By :** Road, **North By :** Property of BM Reddy, **South By :** Private Property.
**Schedule "B" Property :** 720 Sq. feet undivided share of land rights, title, interest in the Schedule A Property.
**Schedule "C" Property :** All the piece and parcel of Flat bearing No. 1004 & 1005, on the Ground Floor, having a super built up area of 2,936 Sq. feet, in an Apartment building known as "R R LIVINGSTON", consisting of Four Bedrooms, living hall, dining hall, kitchen, with vitrified flooring, with sal wood used for preparation of doors frames and UPVC windows constructed on the Schedule A Property and Two covered car parking area in the basement floor, together with a proportionate share in common areas of such passages, lobbies, two lifts, stare case and other areas of common use, standing in the name of Sri. Vijay P S/o Late Paul D'Souza and **bounded on : East by :** Open Space, **West by :** Open Space, **North by :** Flat No. 1003 & 1006, **South by :** Open Space.

**Date : 17.04.2025** — **Sd/- Authorised Officer**
**Place : Bangalore** — **SARB, J.C. Road, Bengaluru.**

## CITY UNION BANK LIMITED

CUB TRUST AND EXCELLENCE SINCE 1904
**Credit Recovery and Management Department**
**Administrative Office :** No. 24-B, Gandhi Nagar, Kumbakonam - 612 001. **E-Mail id :** crmd@cityunionbank.in, **Ph :** 0435-2432322, **Fax :** 0435-2431746

### TENDER-CUM-AUCTION SALE NOTICE UNDER SARFAESI ACT 2002

The following property/ies mortgaged to **City Union Bank Limited** will be sold in Tender-cum-Public Auction by the Authorised Officer of the Bank, under Rule 8 (6) & 9 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, under the SARFAESI Act, 2002, for recovery of a sum of **Rs.31,10,917/-(Rupees Thirty One Lakh Ten Thousand Nine Hundred and Seventeen Only)** as on **15-04-2025** together with further interest to be charged from **16-04-2025** onwards and other expenses, any other dues to the Bank by the borrowers / guarantors **No.1) Mr.SM Krishna, S/o.Mallappa, No.65/02, 2nd Cross, Venkateshwara Layout, S.G.Palaya, Bangalore South, Bangalore - 560029. Also at, Mr. SM Krishna, S/o.Mallappa, E5/2, 2nd Main, Venkateshwara Layout, S.G.Palya, Bangalore - 560029. No.2) Mrs Shanthamma, W/o.SM Krishna, No.65/02, 2nd Cross, Venkateshwara Layout, S.G.Palya, Bangalore South, Bangalore-560029. Also at, Mrs.Shanthamma, W/o. SM Krishna, E5/2, 2nd Main, Venkateshwara Layout, S.G.Palya, Bangalore - 560029.**

**Immovable Property Mortgaged to our Bank**
**(Property Owned by Mr.SM Krishna, S/o.Mallappa)**

All that Piece and Parcel of the immovable Property Measuring 30 guntas in Sy No.26, Shivanapura Village, Anugondanahalli Hobli, Hoskote Taluk, Bangalore Rural District. Bounded on: East by : Walk way and Remaining Portion of Same Property, West by : Gomala Land, North by : Property of Sri Annayyappa, South by : Gomala Land.

**Reserve Price : Rs.60,00,000/-**
**(Rupees Sixty Lakh only)**

**AUCTION DETAILS**

| Date of Tender-cum-Auction Sale | Venue |
|---|---|
| **27-05-2025** | **City Union Bank Limited, Bengaluru-Koramangala Branch,** 92, Z Square, Ground Floor, Jyothi Nivas College Road, Industrial Layout, 5th Block, Koramangala, Bengaluru, Bengaluru Urban-560034. Telephone No.080-25630439, Cell No.9342874657. |

**Terms and Conditions of Tender-cum-Auction Sale:**
**(1)** The intending bidders should be present in person for the auction and participate personally and give a declaration in writing to the effect that he/she is bidding for himself / herself. **(2)** The intending bidders may obtain the Tender Forms from **The Manager, City Union Bank Limited, Bengaluru-Koramangala Branch, 92, Z Square, Ground Floor, Jyothi Nivas College Road, Industrial Layout, 5th Block, Koramangala, Bengaluru, Bengaluru Urban - 560034. (3)** The intending bidders should submit their bids only in the Tender Form prescribed in sealed envelopes addressed to **The Authorised Officer, City Union Bank Ltd.,** together with a Pay Order / Demand Draft for an EMD of **10%** of the Reserve Price, drawn in favour of **"City Union Bank Ltd.", on or before 12.00 Noon** on the date of Tender-cum-Auction Sale hereby notified. **(4)** For inspection of the property and other particulars, the intending purchaser may contact **Telephone No.080-25630439, Cell No.9342874657. (5)** The property/ies are sold on "As-is-where-is", "As-is-what-is" and "whatever- there is" basis. **(6)** The sealed tenders will be opened in the presence of the intending bidders at **01.00 p.m.** on the date of Tender-cum-Auction Sale hereby notified. Though in general the sale will be by way of closed tenders, the Authorised Officer may, at his sole discretion, conduct an Open Auction among the interested bidders who desire to quote a bid higher than the one received in the closed tender process, and in such an event, the sale shall be conferred on the person making highest bid. The sale, however, is subject to confirmation of City Union Bank Limited. **(7)** The successful bidder shall have to pay **25% (inclusive of EMD paid)** of the sale amount **immediately** on completion of sale and the balance amount of **75%** within **15 days** from the date of confirmation of sale, failing which the initial deposit of **25%** shall be forfeited. **(8)** The Sale Certificate will be issued by the Authorised Officer in favour of the successful purchaser only after receipt of the entire sale consideration within the time limit stipulated herein. **(9)** The successful purchaser shall bear the charges/fees payable for conveyance, such as stamp duty, registration fee etc., as applicable under law. **(10)** The successful bidder should pay the statutory dues (lawful house tax, electricity charges and other dues), TDS, GST if any, due to Government, Government Undertaking and local bodies. **(11)** The Authorised Officer shall have all the powers to accept or reject the bids or postpone or cancel the sale without assigning any reason whatsoever.

**Place : Kumbakonam, Date : 17-04-2025** — **Authorised Officer**

**Regd. Office :** 149, T.S.R. (Big) Street, Kumbakonam, Thanjavur District, Tamil Nadu - 612 001, **CIN -** L65110TN1904PLC001287, **Telephone No.** 0435-2402322, **Fax :** 0435-2431746, **Website :** www.cityunionbank.com

## Possession Notice (For Immovable Property) Rule 8-(1)

Whereas, the undersigned being the Authorized Officer of IIFL Home Finance Limited (Formerly known as India Infoline Housing Finance Ltd.) (II FL-H FL) under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(12) mad with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, a Demand Notice was issued by the Authorised Officer of the company to the Borrower/Co-Borrowers mentioned herein below to repay the amount notice is hereby given to the borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has **taken possession** of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him under Section 13(4) of the said Rules. The borrower in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of **IIFL HFL** for an amount as mentioned herein under with interest thereon.The borrowers attention is invited to provisions of sub-section (8) of section 13 of the Act, If the borrower dears the dues of the **"IIFL HFL"** together with all costs. charges and expenses incurred, at any time before the date fixed for sale or transfer, the secured assets shall not be sold or transferred by **"IIFL HFL"** and no further step shall be taken by **"IIFL HFL"** for transfer or sale of the secured assets.

| Name of the Borrower(s)/ Co-Borrower(s) | Description of the Secured Asset (Immovable Property) | Total Outstanding Dues (Rs.) | Date of Demand Notice | Date of Possession |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Mr. Mahesh, Mrs. Lakshmi **Prospect No. IL10403100** | All That Piece And Parcel Of Property No No. 209/1, E Swathu No. 152900102100300329, Muddugere Village, Malur Hobli, Channapattana Taluka, Dist. Ramanagara, Karnataka, 562160. Area Admeasuring (in Sq. Ft.): Property Type: Land_area, Built_up_area , Carpet_area. Property Area: 779.20, 584.40 , 467.50 Bounded By: North: Neelamma And Ankaiah, South: Road, East: Govt Bavi, West: Neelamma | **₹898475.00/-** (Rupees Eight Lakh Ninety Eight Thousand Four Hundred And Seventy Five Only) | 14/05/2024 | 16-04-2025 |

For, further details please contact to Authorised Officer at **Branch Office :** 1st floor Y V S reddy Building Anekal road, Chandapura,Bangalore-560099 or **Corporate Office :** IIFL Tower, Plot No. 98, Udyog Vihar, Ph-IV Gurgaon, Haryana.
**Place : Karnataka, Date : 19.04.2025** — **Sd/- Authorised Officer, For IIFL Home Finance Ltd.**

## DOCUMENT LOST

**I, Tarsem Lal Pathak have Lost My Original Sale deed documents Situated in Kagganur Village of Hosur Taluk, Krishnagiri Dist. Doc No - 5149/1992, Sy No - 87/1B, SL NO - 1, Plot No - A-118, App No - LP/RSD No- 25/87, (Area Extend 2800 Sqft), Style of Layout - V.G.P B'lore View Part - I, (Present SRO Bagalur) (Old SRO Hosur), While Some Personal Work in B'lore Near Byappanahalli, Case Registered No - 1568383/2025.**
**Finder Please Contact or Return to This Address, Tarsem Lal Pathak C/O Vasant, Do/ 1844, 3rd Cross,Near Venkatesh Tent Road, Krishnarajapuram. Phone - 9052000444**

## JM FINANCIAL

**JM Financial Asset Reconstruction Company Limited**
**Corporate identify Number :** U67190MH2007PLC74287
**Registered Office Address :** 7th Floor, Cnergy, Appasaheb Marathe Marg, Prabhadevi, Mumbai 400025
T: +91 22 6630 3030 | F: +911 22 6630 3223 | www. Jmfinancialarc.com

### DEMAND NOTICE

Under Section 13(2) of the Securitisation And Reconstruction of Financial Assets And Enforcement Of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with Rule 3 (1) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002. The Piramal Capital and Housing Finacne Ltd have assigned a pool of Loan (including below mentioned Loans) together with underlying security interest created therefor along with all the rights, title and interest thereon under Section 5 (1) (b) of the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 ("SARFAESI ACT") vide an assignment agreement dated March 29, 2023 ("the Assignment Agreement") in favour of JMFARC (JM) (herein reffered as Assingee). The undersigned is the Authorised Officer of (JM) assignee. Under Securitisation And Reconstruction Of Financial Assets And Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (the said Act). In exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(12) of the said Act read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, the Authorised Officer has issued Demand Notices under Section 13(2) of the said Act, calling upon the following Borrower(s) (the "said Borrower(s)"), to repay the amounts mentioned in the respective Demand Notice(s) issued to them that are also given below. In connection with above, Nnotice is hereby given, once again, to the said Borrower(s) to pay to JM, within 60 days from the publication of this Notice, the amounts indicated herein below, together with further interest as detailed in the said Demand Notice(s), from the date(s) mentioned below till the date of payment and/or realization, payable under the loan agreement read with other documents/writings, if any, executed by the said Borrower(s). As security for due repayment of the loan, the following assets have been mortgaged to JM by the said Borrower(s) respectively.

| Name of the Borrower(s)/ Guarantor(s) | Demand Notice Date and Amount with NPA date | Description of secured asset (immovable property) |
|---|---|---|
| (LC No. 21400043590 of Bengaluru - Jayanagar -1 Branch) Santhosh V (Borrower) Rashmi D S (Co Borrower 1) | Dt :19-03-2025 /₹ 2672720.11/- (₹ Twenty Six lakh Seventy Two Thousand Seven Hundred Twenty Only and Eleven Paise) NPA (08-11-2022) | No G 4, G F Indbargh Sringli, 4Th Cross Balaji Lyt, Ngef Lyt, Main Road, Bangalore Bengaluru Karnataka :- 560056 |
| (LC No. 21400043591 of Bengaluru - Jayanagar -1 Branch) Santhosh V (Borrower) Rashmi D S (Co Borrower 1) | Dt :19-03-2025 /₹ 1542779/- (₹ Fifteen lakh Forty Two Thousand Seven Hundred Seventy Nine Only) NPA (08-11-2022) | No G 4, G F Indbargh Sringli, 4Th Cross Balaji Lyt, Ngef Lyt, Main Road, Bangalore Bengaluru Karnataka :- 560056 |

If the said Borrowers shall fail to make payment to JM as aforesaid, JM shall proceed against the above secured assets under Section 13(4) of the Act and the applicable Rules, entirely at the risks of the said Borrowers as to the costs and consequences. The said Borrowers are prohibited under the Act from transferring the aforesaid assets, whether by way of sale, lease or otherwise without the prior written consent of JM. Any person who contravenes or abets contravention of the provisions of the said Act or Rules made there under, shall be liable for imprisonment and/or penalty as provided under the Act.

**Date : 19.04.2025** — **Sd/- (Authorised Officer)**
**Place : Bangalore** — **JM Financial Asset Reconstruction Company Limited**

## PUBLIC NOTICE

The General Public is hereby informed that My client is intending to purchase the below mentioned schedule property from owner Mr. K.J. Jayaram S/o. late. K.V Jangamaiah.
Therefore, any person(s) having any claims, objection, interest, dispute for the above intended sale transaction, he/she/they may contact the undersigned with the documentary proof substantiating his/her/their objections/claims/details of dispute/s within Fifteen (15) days from the date of this publication, failing which the proposed purchaser will proceed to complete the sale transaction with the above owner as if there are no third party claims/objections/ disputes in respect of the Schedule Property and thereafter no claims/objections/disputes will be entertained.

**SCHEDULE PROPERTY**

All that piece and parcels of the undivided ½ share in land situated in Bangalore, Koramangala Extension, 7th Block, 3rd Cross Road, No. 108 PID No. 67-7-108 measuring East to West 6.10 Meters and North to South 8.20 meters having boundaries East: Property No. 108/A, West: Storm Water Drain, North: Property No. 72, South: Road
AND
Building on the First floor of the above property with built-up area of about 4 ½ square meters along with easement rights.

**Suraj. M.N,** Advocate
Mallasandra, Nadavathi Post, Hoskote Taluk, Bangalore-560067. Mobile: 9880086774
Mail: advocatesurajmandur@gmail.com
Bangalore. Dt: 18-April-2025

THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS City

# Bengaluru Express

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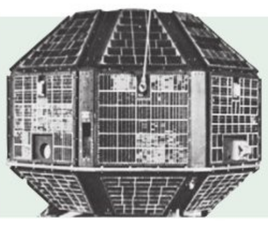
19.04.2025
SATURDAY



**DAY'S DIARY**

## *1st satellite launch*

On this day, in 1975, India took a giant leap into the space age with the successful launch of its first satellite, Aryabhata

**COMMITTEE FOR RESEARCH**

Vikram Sarabhai convened an army of brilliant scientists, anthropologists, communicators and social scientists to spearhead the Indian space programme

**THE DIMENSIONS**

The satellite weighed 360 kg and operated with 46 watts of onboard power. The spacecraft was a 26-sided polygon 1.4 m in diameter

**SIGNIFICANT IMPACTS**

The launch propelled the country into the elite club of space-faring nations. It paved the way for missions like the launch of the Rohini satellite

*CE's guide to happenings in the city*

PG 2

With recent controversies surrounding comedians like Ranveer Allahbadia and Kunal Kamra, there are concerns about the future of comedy but Amit Tandon – who will be performing in the city today – considers these to be growing pains that will change as audiences mature

# 'I DON'T THINK THE ENTIRE COMEDY SCENE IS IN DANGER'

MAHIMA NAGARAJU

THE secret to remaining relevant is to keep evolving," says comedian **Amit Tandon**, ahead of his performance of his new special, 'Halwa', in the city today. One among the first Indian comedians to get their start in India's budding stand up scene back in 2010, the standup star has taken his brand of 'clean comedy', often poking fun at the ridiculousness of daily life and his relationships to newer platforms – seeing success with millions of views on his YouTube sets and Instagram reels, and touring all over the world. "I try to experiment with what I am doing which keeps it fresh. I set a target for myself that I have to do something new with each special I write. YouTube is still one of my favourite mediums, because longform standup comedy – that's how we actually want people to consume it. The shorter forms came later and are necessary to succeed today but I don't try to write comedy for reels," reflects Tandon.

Experimenting while staying true to himself, Tandon's 'Halwa' revisits a topic he has many times before – his relationship with his spouse. But as any relationship that evolves, it has continued to provide new fodder for his comedy. With a focus as personal as this, for Tandon, the writing process allows an opportunity for reflection and an outlet for daily frustrations. "At first, the focus is not to be funny but to bring out an insight. Then, as I take it on stage, I try to make it funnier," he says, explaining that this catharsis is something the audience shares in. "When you are doing comedy sharing intimate stuff, often, people laugh because that's exactly what's happening with them but they've not been able to talk about it with anybody else," he says.

As a veteran, Tandon also observes a shift in standup comedy and its audiences, that perhaps accounts for why his work continues to resonate. "Across India, the audience expects more from you now. They might have laughed at basic jokes years ago but they've grown up and want to see something more intelligent than just slapstick. They know what a well crafted joke is and appreciate it," he says, adding, "Bengaluru has the best audience in India right now – they're open to standup and are better listeners. They'll give you the time and patience to tell a story before you come to a point."

With recent controversies surrounding Ranveer Allahbadia and Kunal Kamra who were subject to widespread outrage over badly received jokes, many have raised concerns about the future of the scene but Tandon considers them growing pains that will change as audiences mature, "It's another blip. I don't think that the entire scene is in danger because of whatever has happened recently. With time, people's opinions will change and they will understand this art form better. With movies, people know clearly that if one faces backlash, it doesn't mean that you stop exhibiting or watching all movies. They've got to realise that there are different voices – some will agree with you, some won't. Some, you can watch with your family. Some, you have to watch alone."

> *We are at a point where the standup comedy scene is exploding. We see comedians performing across the globe and regional comedy has reached the smallest of cities. It's come a long way from 2010 when we had 5-10 people watching us in a pub or a club*
>
> – Amit Tandon, comedian

## Hot Spot

YOUR WEEKLY GUIDE TO GETAWAYS AROUND THE CITY

**MELUKOTE**

**IDEAL TIME TO VISIT**
All year

**DISTANCE FROM B'LURU**
150km from B'luru; around a 2.5 hour drive

**GETTING THERE**
By personal vehicle or by train (will cost around 1k one way)

**TIMINGS**
6am to 9am (Cheluvanarayana Swamy Temple)

**HIGHLIGHTS**

The pond called Kalyani, that dates back to the Hoysala dynasty.

Dhanushkodi Theertha – A water tank believed to be connected to the *Ramayana*.

The town is also famous for its Puliyogare (tamarind rice).

PIC: KARTHIK NR

## CITY READ

### Skincare clinic opens new branch in Sarjapur

Kaya, a brand in dermatological care, recently opened a new clinic in Sarjapur, marking its 11th clinic in Bengaluru and 78th in India, which was inaugurated by popular radio personality Rapid Rashmi. The new clinic is equipped with five fully serviced rooms for a wide range of skin, hair, and body treatments, along with dedicated consultation and dermatologist rooms. Dr Veena Praveen, dermatologist and head medical advisor (South) at Kaya stated, "In a city like Bengaluru, where people juggle busy schedules and face environmental challenges, maintaining healthy skin, hair, and body becomes a real struggle. Here, we are committed to understanding each person's unique needs and crafting solutions that make a real difference."

### Mattress brand partners with business consulting firm

Repose Mattress, a player in the mattress industry, recently announced a partnership with UK & Co, a family business consulting firm. The collaboration will be spearheaded by Ullas Kamath, founder of UK & Co, who comments on the partnership, saying, "Our collaboration aims to refine and strengthen their business strategies to help them achieve exponential growth. By focusing on innovation, market expansion, and operational efficiency, we aspire to build Repose 2.0 – a new avatar of Repose that sets new industry benchmarks."

## *Eggciting Hunt*

**As the Easter bunny hops into the city, indulge in the traditions and relish delicacies from these flavourful events around you**

P3

XPRESS FOCUS

## Global Wellbeing Confluence 2025 Marks a New Era in Healthcare Innovation and Integration

The Global Wellbeing Confluence 2025, organised by AYUSH TV, concluded successfully, redefining holistic wellness in India. Held recently, it drew over 5,000 AYUSH doctors for scientific sessions and CME programmes. Health Minister Dinesh Gundu Rao pledged government support for AYUSH integration. A key highlight was the launch of the Immune Wellness Movement, backed by 6,500 Souharda Co-operatives and Kannada film industry. AYUSH TV Vice-President Harish R. was felicitated as a "Branding Visionary Leader" for spearheading the initiative, marking a huge leap in traditional healthcare evolution.

Harish R, Vice-President, AYUSH TV

## Medicover Hospital Launches Advanced Ortho Robotic Surgery

Medicover Hospital, Whitefield, recently launched its state-of-the-art Ortho Robotic Surgery service, marking a major advancement in precision joint replacement procedures. The launch was inaugurated by Hospital Head Krishna Murthy Gopal and Medical Superintendent Dr. Shruti Kohli, alongside renowned orthopedic surgeons Dr. R.D. Chakravarthy, Dr. Ravindra Puttaswamaiah, Dr. Sanjay Hegde, Dr. Krishnakumar, and Dr. Raghavendra. All surgeons involved have undergone extensive training in robotic surgical techniques, bringing world-class expertise to the hospital. The new facility promises to enhance surgical outcomes, reduce recovery time, and set new standards in orthopedic care.

## Kaya Launches Sarjapur Clinic, Expands Footprint

Kaya, a premier dermatological care brand, launched its 11th clinic in Bengaluru at Sarjapur, marking its 78th across India. The clinic, inaugurated by popular RJ Rapid Rashmi, offers advanced skin, hair, and body treatments across five fully serviced rooms and dedicated dermatologist spaces. Dr. Veena Praveen, Head Medical Advisor (South), emphasised Kaya's commitment to personalised care amidst urban stress and environmental challenges. With cutting-edge technology and expert-driven services, the Sarjapur clinic aims to provide exclusive wellness experiences, reinforcing Kaya's promise of innovation and excellence in skincare.

XPRESS FOCUS SMD INITIATIVE

# Rudraksha Mahotsavam Comes to Bengaluru
# A DIVINE OPPORTUNITY TO EMBRACE THE SACRED SCIENCE OF RUDRAKSHA

ARVINND BANKAR

In an age where spiritual seekers yearn for deeper connection and clarity, Rudraksha stands as an ancient beacon of divine energy. This sacred seed is not just an accessory but a tool for transformation, healing, and spiritual elevation—revered since Vedic times.

As beautifully expressed in the Srimad Devi Bhagavatam (Skandha 11, Chapter 5), the scriptures declare:

"True devotion towards Rudraksha does not arise without cause. Only after many births and with the blessings of Mahadeva does one naturally develop the desire to wear Rudraksha. The greatness of Rudraksha has been lovingly described by the sages of the Jabala tradition."

Indeed, the desire to wear Rudraksha is not a coincidence—it is destiny unfolding. And perhaps, this is your moment.

### Sacred Exhibition

To offer genuine access to these spiritual treasures, Rudrajyoothi Healing Gallery, a respected name with over 18 years of expertise, is organising Rudraksha Mahotsavam from April 18 to 22, at Canara Union Hall, Malleshwaram.

The exhibition showcases rare and authentic Rudrakshas, including the revered Shiva Shakti Mala—a divine combination of 1 to 21 Mukhi , Gaurishankar, Ganesh and Sawar Rudraksha beads. According to the Shiva Purana, those who wear all types of Rudraksha with devotion experience fulfillment, protection, and liberation.

### Special Attraction - The Power of the Shiva Shakti Mala

This sacred mala is not limited to any religion, gender, or caste—it is universal. Each bead resonates with a specific divine energy. Modern studies and ancient yogic science agree: Rudraksha beads affect the body's bio-energy. They stabilize the heartbeat, reduce stress, increase focus, and help align one's chakras. This makes Rudraksha not only spiritually significant but scientifically beneficial.

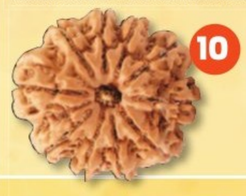
## DIVINE BEADS

**Each Rudraksha bead is characterised by natural divisions known as "mukhis" or faces, each offering specific benefits.**

**14** The 14 Mukhi Rudraksha, blessed by Lord Shiva and Hanuman, empowers intuition and wise decision-making, making it highly sought after by investors, real estate developers, and top executives.

**13** The 13 Mukhi, associated with Lord Indra and planet Venus, boosts charm, negotiation skills, and creativity—perfect for marketing, media, and PR professionals.

**12** 12 Mukhi, ruled by the Sun, enhances leadership, fame, and authority—ideal for professionals and entrepreneurs.



**10** The 10 Mukhi Rudraksha, blessed by Lord Vishnu, offers protection from planetary malefic effects and resolves legal or business conflicts.

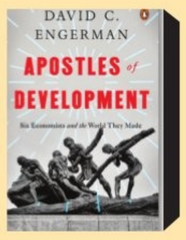
**What to Expect at the Mahotsavam.**

- Rare Shiva Shakti Mala, 1 mukhi to 21 kukhi Rudraksh , Ganesh and Gaurishankar and Rares SAWAR Rudraksh.
- Mercury Shivlingas, Crystal Yantras, spiritual jewelry
- Free Rudrabhishekam to energize purchased malas
- Personal Consultations to find your ideal Rudraksha combination
- X-Ray Tested & Lab-Certified Beads by ISO 9001-2015 certified Lab

**Event Details:**
**Venue: Canara Union Hall, 8th Main, 13th Cross, Malleshwaram, Near MES College**
**Dates: April 18–22, 2025**
**Timings: 11 AM to 8 PM**
**Call: 9867402789**
**Visit: www.rudrajyoothi.in**

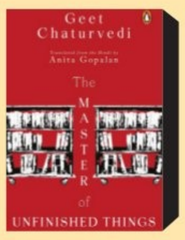
*(The author is a Rudraksh Therapist and Founder of Rudrajyoothi Healing Gallery)*

## BOOK NOOK



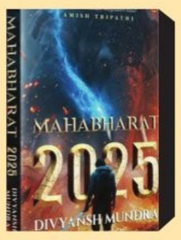

### Apostles of Development
**by David C Engerman**

It uncovers the pivotal role six economists played in shaping global poverty solutions after WWII. A compelling read on how Global South leaders redefined progress, challenging traditional views on development and inequality.



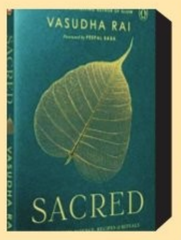

### The Master of Unfinished Things
**by Geet Chaturvedi (Translated by Anita Gopalan)**

An English translation of the Hindi work, *Adhuri Cheezon Ka Devta*. Through his lyricism and poetic style of writing, Geet brings to life a compilation of genre-defying stories, poems, diary entries into an awe-inspiring memoir which grapples with questions of identity, purpose, love and art.




### Mahabharat 2025
**by Divyansh Mundra**

The mythological meets the modern in an electrifying saga of ancestral curses and buried legacies. The epic doesn't begin in a palace or a battlefield — it begins in the cold morning mist of Rishikesh, where an 18-year-old watches his grandfather walk into the Ganga and vanish forever. That moment changes everything.




### Sacred
**by Vasudha Rai**

*Sacred* is an urgent and lyrical exploration of India's sacred flora, drawing from ancient rituals, folklore, and modern science to remind readers that divinity is rooted in the natural world.

**LOOKING TO THE PAST**

Visitors enjoy an exhibition dedicated to the community's memories of Basavanagudi at the Indian Institute of World Culture, Basavanagudi | NAGARAJA GADEKAL

## QUICKFIX

# PURAN POLI

### INGREDIENTS

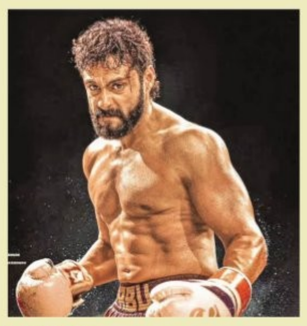
- **Wheat flour:** 2 cups
- **Chana dal:** 1.5 cups
- **Refined oil:** 2 tbsp
- **Maida:** 1 cup
- **Jaggery:** 1.5 cups
- **Ghee:** 1/2 to 1 tsp

### METHOD

- Mix wheat flour, maida, a pinch of turmeric powder, and salt with water and oil to make dough.
- Soak chana dal for an hour, then pressure cook under medium heat till it simmers.
- Mash cooked chana dal with jaggery and make small balls.
- Take out small rolls of dough, place chana dal balls inside, and seal.
- Cook puran poli on tawa with ghee until golden brown and serve hot.

Contributed by **Jesly Pulikotil,** Pune

## NOWSTREAMING



**DAVEED** (Malayalam)

Ashiq Abu, a middle-aged bouncer, faces a life-changing rivalry with Turkish boxer Sainul Akhmedov.

**Cast:** Antony Varghese, Mo Ismail, Lijomol Jose

- **Watch on:** ZEE5

### FOREIGN

**THE GLASS DOME** (Swedish, series)

The series revolves around Lejla, a criminologist, who returns to her hometown and reunites with her former police chief partner to investigate the disappearance of a local girl. But the investigation forces her to confront her traumatic past.

**Cast:** Léonie Vincent, Johan Hedenberg, Johan Rheborg

- **Watch on:** Netflix

**THE STOLEN GIRL** (English, series)

Elisa, a mother of two, allows Lucia, her nine-year-old daughter to have a sleepover at her new best friend Josie's house. But the next day, when Elisa goes to pick Lucia, she is shocked to see everyone gone.

**Cast:** Holliday Grainger, Ambika Mod, Denise Gough

- **Watch on:** JioHotstar

**SUBSCRIPTION**

| | |
|---|---|
| Netflix: | ₹199/month |
| Prime Video: | ₹299/month |
| JioHotstar: | ₹899/year |
| Zee5: | ₹699/year |
| Viki Rakuten: | ₹299/month |
| Aha: | ₹699/year |
| SonyLIV: | ₹299/month |

## FITBIT

# ARDHA PAWANMUKTASANA VARIATION (HALF WIND RELEASE POSE VARIATION)

**This is a beginner-level variation of the foundational Hatha Yoga pose, Pawanmuktasana (Wind Release Pose). This is more of a relaxation technique. So, this stretch can be included in yoga sequences for almost all on a daily basis. The gentle pressure on the abdomen helps with better digestion.**

### STEPS

- Start in Constructive Rest Pose, legs together, knees pointing towards the sky, and feet firm on the ground.
- Take a few deep breaths to relax and centre yourself.
- Bring your awareness to your right leg. Inhale, slowly bring the right knee to the chest. Keep your left leg bent with your foot flat on the ground.
- As you lift the knee, exhale, and use your hands to gently hold onto your shin to help draw the knee closer to your chest.
- Stay here for about six breaths or as per the body's capacity, looking upwards. Continue to breathe deeply and notice if there is any unnecessary tension in the body. Take a moment to feel the stretch and release any tension in the lower back and hips.
- If you feel uncomfortable, rock or sway your knee from side to side to loosen the hip area.
- To release, exhale, gently lower your right foot on the ground and return to Constructive Rest Pose. Stay here for a breath or two. Once you feel comfortable, counter the stretch on the other side.
- Release and relax in Constructive Rest Pose.
- Finally, relax in Savasana (Corpse Pose).

### BENEFITS

- Stabilises hips and strengthens the lower back. Tones arms and shoulders.
- Strengthens the cervical spine.
- Activates the chest muscles and the back of the lungs.
- Enhances heart and lung functioning and the flexibility of the diaphragm.
- Opens hip joints and tones the glutes.
- Primarily enhances lower body flexibility.
- Helps enhance metabolism.
- Gives relief from headaches, especially migraines.
- Helps eliminate imbalances of Vata doshas.
- Good for spinal toning which calms the nervous system.
- Releases accumulated muscular stress and tensions. Boosts energy in the body.
- Intestines get massaged and are effective for the digestive system.
- Brings fresh blood to all the parts of the lower abdomen.
- Works on imbalance in the reproductive system.
- Treats menstrual disorders, flatulence, constipation, infertility, and impotence or diabetes.

### LIMITATIONS

- Students with shoulder, ankle or knee injuries, weak ankles, knees, wrists, joints, slipped and herniated discs, or those who have undergone any surgery, should avoid this. Senior citizens, pregnant and menstruating women and those who have undergone caesarean section, should also avoid this practice.

**By N Elumalai, PhD Scholar (Yoga Science) at Meenakshi Academy of Higher Education & Research, Chennai**

**EXPRESS CONNECT**

HAVE A RECIPE OR ART WORK TO SHARE, OR A QUESTION TO ASK?

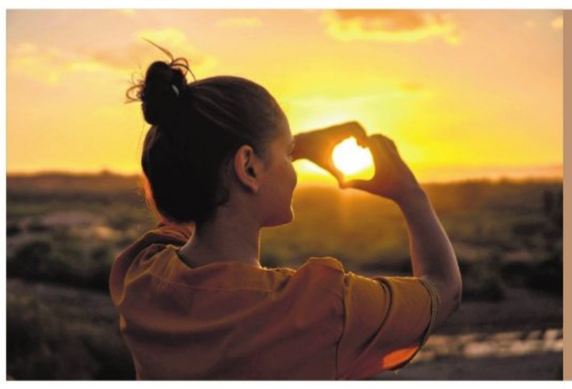
@XpressBengaluru/@tniefeatures
bengalurucityexpress@gmail.com
@xpress_bengaluru

## WHATWHENWHYWHERE

### Thespian Tales

Attend a live production of *Naayi Mattu Chappali* by Daatu Theatre which showcases the stereotypical behaviours of society through a comical narrative. Enjoy a rib-tickling night out at this theatrical experience.

**WHEN:** April 19, 7pm
**WHERE:** KEA Prabhath Rangamandira, Basaveshwara Nagara
**CALL:** 97382 73880



### Healing Hours

For the child in you that deserves acknowledgement, here's a heart-opening inner child connection workshop with Aanchal Sharma, a psychotherapist. Explore breathwork, guided visualisation, and creative expression as a gentle invitation to self-exploration.

**WHEN:** April 20, 11am
**WHERE:** Atta Galatta, Indiranagar
**DETAILS:** attagalatta.com

### Fun Circus

Take your family and loved ones to witness an array of captivating circus acts that showcase the best of Indian artistry with delightful clowns. Enjoy performances like laser shows, juggling on balls, sky walking, and more!

**WHEN:** April 19, 11am
**WHERE:** St. John's Auditorium, Koramangala
**DETAILS:** bookmyshow.com

### Scientific Explorations

Have you ever wondered about how life originated and what it means to study its origins? Join Mukund Thattai in a two-hour lecture as he brings together threads from biology, physics and computer science to weave the story of the past, present and future of cellular life. **WHEN:** April 19, 4pm **WHERE:** Science Gallery Bengaluru, Bellary Road **DETAILS:** bengaluru.sciencegallery.com

### Splish Splash

Bask in the sun and dive into an exclusive poolside experience with this event that will feature music, exciting pool games, a photo booth to capture your memories, and premium food and beverages for refreshment. Dress in your chich summer outfits and have fun!

**WHEN:** April 19, 1pm onwards
**WHERE:** Gokulam Grand Hotel and Spa, Yeshwanthpur
**DETAILS:** highape.com

### Dance Workshop

Add some magic to your date nights with a dance workshop where you can learn the fundamentals of Bachata dance with a vibrant community. Whether you're a couple or flying solo, this workshop promises a perfect mix of fun and fitness!

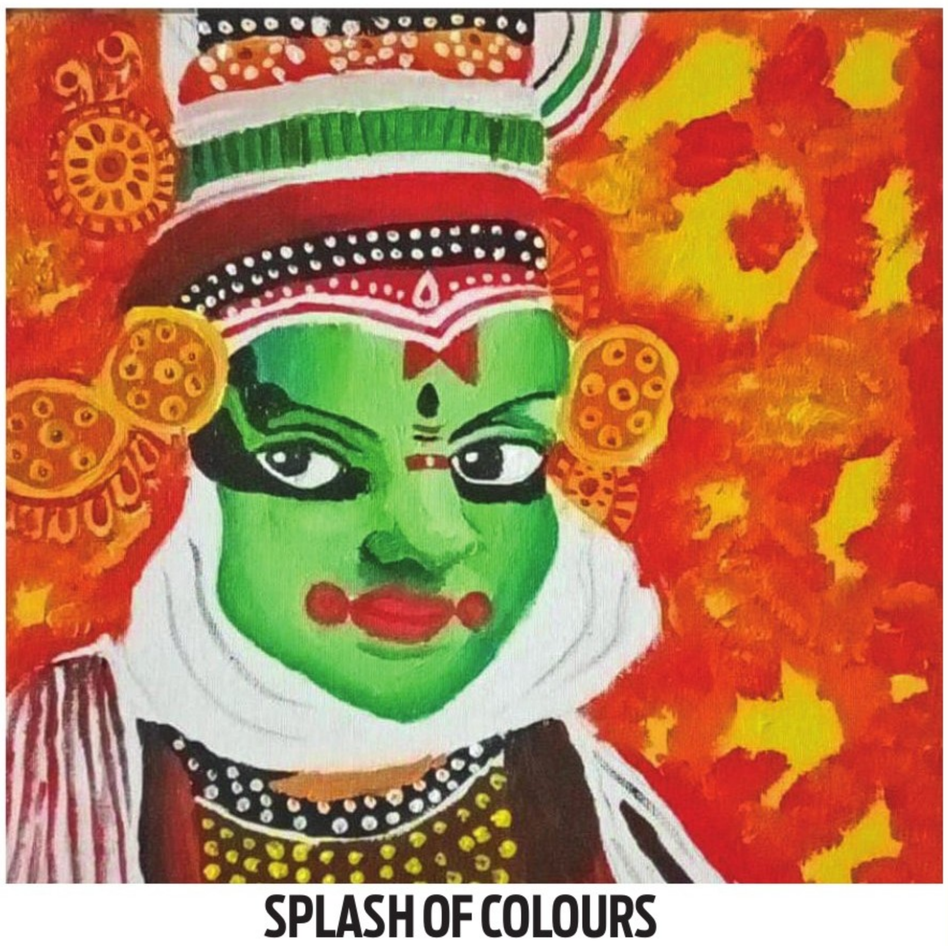
**WHEN:** April 19, 2pm
**WHERE:** Cafe Reset, Koramangala
**DETAILS:** district.in

### Cultural Evenings

Attend this cultural performance called Suryaputra Shanideva by Kailasa Kaladhara, a Bharatnatyam dance school. Welcoming multiple esteemed guests and artistes, this event could be just the cultural gathering you need.

**WHEN:** April 19, 4.30pm onwards
**WHERE:** Ravindra Kalakshetra, JC Road
**DETAILS:** kailasakaladhara.com

## ARTCORNER



**SPLASH OF COLOURS**

Eleven-year-old Chennai-based artist Anjali Shekhar's art celebrates a colourful art form

As the Easter bunny hops into the city, indulge in the traditions and relish delicacies from these flavourful events around you

# Eggciting Hunt

COMPILED BY AAKANSHA MUNSHI

After a reverent church service, mark a flavourful end to your holy week by attending Easter events taking place across the city. Get your families, friends, and little ones together for a day of delicious food, live music, and traditional egg hunts!

## Cultural Cravings

Experience a journey of flavours with live chaat bhandar, fresh seafood, cold cuts, sizzling grills, and soups. Indulge in a buffet with a colourful salad bar, and main course specialities.

**WHEN:** April 20, 12.30pm onwards
**WHERE:** Sheraton Grand Bengaluru Whitefield Hotel and Convention Center, Thigalarapalya **CALL:** 95139 82019

## Bunny Brunch

Take your family to enjoy an Easter brunch with festive dishes like hot cross buns, Easter bread, lamb roast, honey-glazed carrots and carrot cake with cream cheese frosting. Highlights include a fun workshop for kids where they can paint Easter eggs!

**WHEN:** April 20, 1pm onwards
**WHERE:** La Utsav at Grand Mercure at Gopalan Mall, Old Madras Road
**CALL:** 95132 89926

## Hop & Dine

Take part in an immersive, one-day buffet that reimagines the culinary heritage shaped by French and Dutch colonial influences. Every dish is curated with health and intention, free from refined ingredients, preservatives, and animal products, staying true to the restaurant's plant-based cuisine.

**WHEN:** April 20, 12.30pm onwards | **WHERE:** Justbe by Nidhi Nahata, Sadashivanagar | **CALL:** 8884163061

## Spring Supper

Dig into an Easter brunch that captures the freshness of spring with dishes like blossom greens, spring garden frittata, and a sprint pea and mint soup. Desserts include quail egg, carrot ginger and cream cheesecake, hazelnut raspberry delights, and the caramelised white chocolate tres leches.

**WHEN:** April 20, 12.30pm onwards | **WHERE:** JW Kitchen at JW Marriott Hotel Bengaluru, Ashok Nagar | **CALL:** 88844 94037

## Easter Eats

Step into a space of warmth, flavour, and celebration by sharing a hearty breakfast, a lazy lunch, or a soulful steak dinner. Easter specials at this event include festive decor and Easter table linen, handpicked music, and delicious steaks served with complimentary iced tea.

**WHEN:** April 19-20, 9am onwards | **WHERE:** Urban Solace, Ulsoor | **CALL:** 98450 13055

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RUBINATIONS
Rubi Chakravarti
*Writer, actor and funny girl*

# COMING OF AGE!

AS I settled into bed with my remote in hand and looking forward to the new Netflix series that I was going to binge-watch, the doorbell rang. I was a wee bit surprised as to who dared darken my doorstep at 9pm (senior people's witching hour) when suddenly, I heard peals of baby laughter. I sprang out of bed to be greeted with the sight of my kids with my little munchkin in tow. Curls flying, she leapt into my arms and my house has turned into a home. My floors are strewn with blocks, Lego titbits, mini cooking 'thingamajigs' and somehow all my expensive silk cushions are on the floor! The funny part is, I really don't care! Having conversations with a bright two and half-year-old, taking her on excursions to the museum, Cubbon Park's train, garden, and the aquarium, making up stories about 'Muthu' and 'Mr Gowda' (all imaginary characters), has given me untold joy. Most of my (real) friends, new found 'glammas' themselves and exchanging stories about the lil' uns (instead of gossiping!) is another lease on our lives. We are not 'nannies', but 'nanny-supervisors'. We do the fun things, pamper them and feed them, without stepping into their parents' shoes. We are the 'new-age' grandparents, relevant, fun, and gregarious 'glammas'.

Keeping my new-age status in mind, I trotted off to the ITC Windsor, at the invitation of their stunning GM, Sabrina Dey. She is the first female GM of Windsor Manor, in what was long considered to be a 'male-dominated-bastion'. The invitation was an all-women meet-up to celebrate womanhood, with a night of sophistication over the savouring of the finest Hibiki Whiskey from the House of Suntory, which was a surefire hit. Sophisticated women rarely get 'disorderly' drunk! And getting merry on Hibiki, with its unparalleled craftsmanship, limited production, extended ageing process, and use of high-quality ingredients, was easy. With a fantastic array of hors-d'oeuvres and small plates wafting around, signalling the new range of cuisine available at the Dublin pub, got all our sensory perceptions involved. 'Twas a wonderful evening, filled with bonhomie, laughter and 'gentle-networking'. With our gustatory cells on overload, it was a night to remember.

Sheeba Razdan has been a friend for ages. Her husband's work took her away from 'namma-ooru' for a while but she has always been a 'Luru-gal' at heart. Now that they are firmly ensconced in Bengaluru for some time, she has easily managed to reconnect with all her friends, and in true SS (Sheeba-Style) threw an intimate birthday luncheon at the new hot-spot, Trippy Goat Café. The long table seated her 15 close women friends with just three men as a token gesture. The food was outstanding as was the company. After a certain milestone in your life, even the so-called uptight women lose their inhibitions and concentrate on living life to the fullest. After we were well watered and fed we started talking on so many subjects that concern us as women. Though I was on 'social terms' with many of them for years, I was presently surprised to hear differing and solid viewpoints from many of them who I did not know as close friends. The atmosphere was raucous and full of uninhibited jokes and laughter.

What's a birthday, more or less, when we wear ours with such finesse?

*(The writer's views are personal)*

Sabrina Dey & Shibani Surkund

XPRESS FOCUS

## IADC-A Shines at All India Inter-University Pencak Silat Championship 2024–25

The Indian Academy Degree College – Autonomous (IADC-A) has made a resounding mark at the All India Inter University Pencak Silat Championship (Men & Women) 2024–25, held at Kristu Jayanti College, Bengaluru, from April 14 to 16, 2025.

The Department of Physical Education, backed by the unwavering support of the Management, Principal, and Faculty, proudly congratulates the college's Pencak Silat team for their spectacular performance at the national-level championship.

A total of 21 athletes from IADC-A — 13 men and 8 women — represented the college with passion and grit, returning with a stunning medal tally of 3 Gold, 4 Silver, and 4 Bronze.

**Gold Medalists**

- Syed Ali (4th Sem BBA) – Above 110 kg
- Shagun B (4th Sem) – Solo Creatives
- Ranesh K B & Ayushmaan R (2nd Sem BSc) – Ganda Event

**Silver Medalists**

- Mohammed Nizam (4th Sem B.Com) – 55–60 kg
- Koushick V (4th Sem B.Com) – 85–90 kg
- Jathin M (4th Sem BCA) – 45–50 kg
- Shashank G, J Vigneshwaran & Bhuvan K N (4th Sem B.Com) – Team Regu

**Bronze Medalists**

- B Mayaank Naidu (2nd Sem B.Com) – 50–55 kg
- Faiza Fathima Sharif (4th Sem BA) – Above 100 kg
- Simran R (6th Sem BSc) – Solo Creatives
- Abdul Rayan J (4th Sem BSc) – 75–80 kg

**Commendable Effort**

In addition to the medal winners, several other students showcased commendable efforts and represented the institution with pride:

- Punit Sharma (4th Sem MSc)
- Divya R (4th Sem BCA)
- Sameena Taj (1st Sem MBA)
- Dheepiikha Singh (6th Sem BCA)
- Manasa J (4th Sem BCA)
- K Abinayashree (4th Sem BCA)
- Anusha S (4th Sem BCA)

The championship also saw Bengaluru North University emerge as the Overall Champion in both Men's and Women's categories.

THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS **CLASSIFIEDS**

**PUBLIC NOTICE**
CHANGE OF NAME

**CHANGE OF NAME**
**I, VIJAYA KUMAR.V,** Resident of No.138/388, Sathya Nagar, Bangalore North, M.S.Nagar Post, Bangalore-560033. I state that i have changed my name from **VIJAYA KUMAR.V** to **VIJAY KUMAR.V** vide affidavit dated, 16/04/2025, sworn before C.Santhosh, Notary Public, at Bangalore.

**CHANGE OF NAME**
I, **DIMPLE A. MENDA**, aged about 69 years, W/o. Arjun R. Menda @ Arjun Ramchand Menda, R/at #7/10, A-6, Kalawanti, Kumara Krupa Road, Opp Chithrakala Parishath, High Grounds, Bengaluru North, Bengaluru 560 001, do hereby declare, confirm and affirm that the names **(1) Shobha Kishandas Bathija, (2) Shobha A. Menda and (3) Dimple A. Menda are one and the same and are all my names. I am Dimple A. Menda @ Shobha Kishandas Bhathija @ Shobha A. Menda.** vide Affidavit dated 16/04/2025 before Notary **ARUNA .V**

**CHANGE OF NAME**
I, **Rajashekhar (also known as Rajashekhar Kekanaje)**, S/o. Mr. K. I. Bhat, aged about 55 years, presently residing at: No.18, 2nd Main, Aditya Nagar, J. P. Nagar 8th Phase, Bengaluru - 560108. My name has been referred differently as **(i) Rajashekhar, (ii) Rajashekhar Kekanaje Ishwar Bhat, (iii) Rajashekar (iv) Rajashekhar K (v) Rajashekara (vi) Rajashekar (vii) Rajashekhara K and (ix) Rajashekhar** in various documents. Henceforth, my name shall be referred and be known as **Rajashekhar Kekanaje** in all my future records and documents as sworn before I Addl. Dist., & Sessions Judge, Bangalore Rural Dist, Bangalore – 09 , vide affidavit dated 27.03.2025.

**CHANGE OF NAME**
I, **CHAYA DEVI S.** W/o C. Sreedharan, Aged about 46 years, R/at # 43, 12th Cross, 2nd Main Road, Laggere, Muneshwara Layout, Bangalore - 560 058, do hereby declare that I have changed my name from **CHAYA SREEDHARAN** to **CHAYA DEVI S.** Vide affidavit dated 17.04.2025 sworn to before S. Eswara Reddy, Advocate & Notary, Govt. of India, Bengaluru.

**CHANGE OF NAME**
I, **RIZWANA ALIJAN MAQBOOL**, W/o. Syed Waheed Y.H, D/o. Late Alijan Maqbool, aged about 39 years, residing at No. 7, 1st Block, East Byrasandra Main Road, Jayanagar, Bangalore-560011, do hereby declare that I have changed my name from **RIZWANA MAQBOOL** to **RIZWANA ALIJAN MAQBOOL,** vide affidavit dated 17.04.2025, sworn to before Prakasha .C, Advocate & Notary, Bengaluru.

**CHANGE OF NAME**
I, **SURESH RAM MALARAM CHOUDHARY, R/@ No.07, 1st Floor, Basavaraja Lane, Cottenpet, Bengaluru- 560053, Karnataka India, have changed my name from SURESH RAM MALARAM CHOUDARY to SURESH RAM MALARAM CHOUDHARY vide affidavit dated: 08/04/2025, sworn before Notary Public, Uday Kumar K., Bangalore.**

**CHANGE OF NAME**
I, TIPPANURU ANURADHA (DOB: 01-06-1966) W/o Mr. Tippanuri Vijay Mohan Reddy residing at House No. 174, 5th A Main, A Sector, Yelahanka new Town. Bengaluru, Karnataka-560064, have changed my name from TIPPANURU ANURADHA to TIPPANURI ANURADHA vide Affidavit No. 379, Pg. No. 25. Volume No. 36, Dated: 17-04-2025, Sworn to before Notary Public G.P CHAYA, Bengaluru

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**CHANGE OF NAME**
I, **AADITYA SHARMA TAMULI**, S/o Late Dr. Anil Kumar Sharma Tamuli, aged about 38 years, R/at Flat No. 301, No. 86, 3rd Floor, Balaji Residence, 8th Cross, Sri Ramanagar, Ittamadu BSK 3rd Stage, Bangalore-560 085 do hereby declare that both the names i.e. **ROHIT SHARMA TAMULI** and **AADITYA SHARMA TAMULI** are one and the same and refers to me only, vide affidavit dated 16-04-2025, sworn before Advocate and Notary **M. PRABHAKAR** at Bangalore.

**CHANGE OF NAME**
I, **KUNJURI PANDURANGARAO** S/o Late K Shankara Rao, residing at No.402, 3rd Block, 10th Cross, HMT Layout, Vidyaranyapura, Bangalore - 560097, do hereby declare that, I have changed my name from **K PANDURANGA MURTHY RAO** alias **PANDURANGA MURTHY RAO K** to **KUNJURI PANDURANGARAO.** Henceforth, I shall be known and called as **KUNJURI PANDURANGARAO** only, vide affidavit dated 17/04/2025, sworn before advocate and notary R. Ramesh, at Bengaluru

**CHANGE OF NAME**
I, **RANJITHA S**, wife of Army No. 13628016Y, Rank HAV KARTHIKEYAN E, R/o No. 1/149, Bazaar Street, Santhaimedu, Water Tank Opposite, Keezhvazhithanaiankuppam (KV Kuppam), Kilvayathinankuppam Post, Katpadi, Vellore, Tamil Nadu - 632201, have changed my Name to RANJITHA K. Vide on affidavit dated 16/04/25, sworn before notary Sivakumara.M.N, B'lore

**CHANGE OF NAME**
I, **MONISHA RAM K.** D/o. Kodanda Rama H.R., Aged about 20 years, R/at # 56, "Santhrupthi", 7th Main, Dattathreyanagar, Hosakerehalli, BSK 3rd Stage, Bangalore - 560 085, do hereby declare that, I have changed my name from **MONISHA KODANDARAMA** to **MONISHA RAM K.** Vide affidavit dated 17.04.2025 sworn to before S. Eswara Reddy, Advocate & Notary, Govt. of India, Bengaluru.

**CHANGE OF NAME**
I, **VINITA** Aged about 38 Years, W/o **Virender Singh,** Resident of Vinod Vihar Village, Satyanarayana Post, Rishikesh Tehsil, Uttarakhand- 248204 Presently Residing at Bangalore I State that my husband working at Army Vide No. 13626229N Hav (INFSOL)PRTC J.C.Nagar Bangalore. In my husband Army Office record My Name as **VINITA** But My Aadhar Card My name Mentioned as **VINITA NEGI,** I Further state that **VINITA** as well as **VINITA NEGI** both names are my name one and the same person vide affidavit dated: 16/4/2025 Before Notary **G.B.Turamari** Bangalore.

**CHANGE OF NAME**
I, **MALLIDI RAMITHA, resident at A-504, Prestige St.John's Wood Apartment, Thavarekere Main Road, Thavarekere, Bengaluru-560029, have changed my name to YALAVARTI RAMITHA Vide Affidavit Dated: 14.04.2025 before advocate and notary B.M. Chandrashekar, Bengaluru.**

**CHANGE OF NAME**
I, NAYANA PRASANNA BHAT (DOB: 21-05-1981) D/o Mahabaleshwar Hegde, residing at: Villa No. 83, Swasti, Atmos Silver woods Phase-1, Near Kadathanamale Lake, Adde Vishwanathapura, Bengluru-561203 have changed my name from NAYANA PRASANNA BHAT to NAYANA BHAT vide Affidavit No. 380, Pg. No. 25, Volume No. 36, Dated: 17-04-2025, Sworn to before Notary Public G.P CHAYA, Bengaluru.

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**CHANGE OF NAME**
I, **CHETAN KUMAR B,** S/o Babulal Mali, age 29 years, R/at Flat No.07, Srinivasa Nilaya, 1st Floor, Ashok Nagar, Banshankari 1st Stage, Bengaluru-560 050 do hereby declare that I have changed my name from **CHETAN KUMAR B** to **CHETAN GOYAL**, henceforth I shall be known and called as **CHETAN GOYAL** for all purposes, vide affidavit dated 16-04-2025, sworn before Advocate and Notary **R.S. VIJAY** at Bangalore.

**CHANGE OF NAME**
I, **RADHAKRISHNAN SADASIVAN** S/o Late Iyer Sadasivan Thyagarajan, residing at No.FF1-344, "Kalpavruksha", 3rd Block, 4th Main, 13th Cross, BEL Layout, Vidyaranyapura, Bangalore - 560097 do hereby declare that, I have changed my names from **RADHAKRISHNAN SADASIVAN** alias **IYER RADHAKRISHNAN SADASIVAN** alias **RADHAKRISHNAN.S** alias **S. RADHAKRISHNAN** to **RADHAKRISHNAN SADASIVAN.** Henceforth, I shall be known and called as **RADHAKRISHNAN SADASIVAN** only, vide affidavit dated 17/04/2025, sworn before advocate and notary R. Ramesh, at Bengaluru.

**CHANGE OF NAME**
**I, GOWRAMMA .C.K** Spouse of No. 1295115W Rank HAV Name Late C.N. KAVERIAPPA Presently residing #10, 14th Cross, Bhuvaneshwari Nagar, Hebbal Kempapura, Bangalore – 560024. Have changed my name from **GOURAMMA to GOWRAMMA .C.K.** Vide affidavit dated 16/04/2025 sworn before H.K.Gopalagowda Advocate and Notary Bangalore on 16/04/2025.

**AFFIDAVIT**
I, **SANTHOSHA NAIK** son of Mr. Achhutha Naik, aged about 35 years, residing at Shree Durga Nilaya, Kannaru Darkhasu, Cherkady Post, Udupi-576215, do hereby declare that my both names **SANTHOSHA** and **SANTHOSHA NAIK** both are same person, vide affidavit dated 16.04.2025, sworn to before H.K. Gopalagowda, Advocate & Notary Public, Govt. of India, Bengaluru.

**CHANGE OF NAME**
I, MANASA K.N., W/o. Pranavananda Veni, residing at Flat No.101, Srinivasa Nilaya, II Floor, Supreme King's Lake Apartment, 7th Cross, BHCS Layout II Stage, Uttarahalli, Bangalore-560061, Karnataka, India, declare that I have changed the name of my Minor daughter from MYTHILI V PRASAD (Old Name) to AARNA P VENI (New Name), henceforth my Daughter shall be known and called as AARNA P VENI (New Name) for all purpose, vide Affidavit dated:18/04/2025 before Notary MOHAMMED HUSSAIN K at BENGALURU.

**CHANGE OF NAME**
I, **SUNITHA CHOUDHARY, W/o. Suresh Ram Malaram Choudhary, R/@ No.07, 1st Floor, Basavaraja Lane, Cottenpet, Bengaluru- 560053, Karnataka India, have changed my name from SUNITHA KUMARI CHOUDHARY to SUNITHA CHOUDHARY vide affidavit dated: 08/04/2025, sworn before Notary Public, Uday Kumar K., Bangalore.**

**CHANGE OF NAME**
I, SHRIYA RAJ (DOB: 18-10-1995) D/o Late. Inderraj Malpe, residing at: #103, Raj Residency, 4th A Cross Road, Yelahanka New Town, Bengaluru-560064, Karnataka-India, have changed my name from SHRIYA RAJ to SHRIYA RAJ M (SHRIYA RAJ MALPE) vide Affidavit No. 387, Pg. No. 26, Volume No. 36, Dated :17-04-2025, Sworn to before Notary Public G.P CHAYA, Bengaluru

**CHANGE OF NAME**
I, **RAKSHA ANAND MUDAR,** D/o Late Shri H.R. Rajanna, aged about 51 years, currently R/at No. 2417, Branch Road, Champaign, Illinois, 61822 and having correspondence Address at No. 19, Sannidhi, 13th Cross, 9th Main Road, Sarakki Gate JP Nagar, Bangalore-560 078 do hereby declare that all the names i.e. **RAKSHA ANAND MUDAR, RAKSHA ANAND and RAKSHA H.R.** are one and the same and refers to me only, henceforth I shall be known and called as **RAKSHA ANAND MUDAR** for all purposes, vide affidavit dated 17th April 2025, sworn before Advocate and Notary **MOHAMMED HUSSAIN .K** at Bangalore.

**CHANGE OF NAME**
I, **ASHWIN D. BHAT,** aged 51 years, son of late Sri C. R. Dayanand, residing at No.5249 , 2nd Floor, 5th Block, Janapriya Bharat Enclave, Sunkadakatte, Vishwaneedam Post, Bangalore North, Bangalore-560091, do hereby declare that I have changed my name from **ASHWIN D. KUMAR** to **ASHWIN D. BHAT**, vide Affidavit dated 15-04-2025 sworn before Smt. P. Anuradha, Advocate and Notary Public, Bangalore.

**CHANGE OF NAME**
**I, PRIYANKA UTTAMCHAND JAIN aged about 29 years, Residing at No.4/2, 9th Main, 7th Cross, Srirampuram, Bengaluru-560021. Have Changed my Name as PRIYANKA JAIN vide affidavit Dated: 18.04.2025 before Notary VANAJAKSHI R, Bangalore**

**CHANGE OF NAME**
I, **LAKSHMI N**, W/o. Subramanya C, residing at Devanahalli Road, Palanahalli Village, Yelahanka Hobli, Bangalore-560064, do hereby declare that I have changed my name from **D N RATHNA** to **LAKSHMI N**, vide affidavit dated 17.04.2025, sworn to before H.K. Gopalagowda, Advocate & Notary Public, Govt. of India, Bengaluru.

**CHANGE OF NAME**
**I, PAVAN SHEKARAPPA, Aged about 32 Years (Date of Birth 01-05-1993), Residing at No. HOUSE No. 31, 32, 15th B CROSS SVARG ROAD, ASHA TOWNSHIP, DODDAGUBBI, BENGALURU 560077, have changed my name to PAVAN HEGDE vide affidavit dated: 17.04.2025 sworn before advocate and notary Smt. A. MANJULA, Bengaluru.**

**CHANGE OF NAME**
I, **BANGALORE SRIPATHI ACHARYA**, aged about 51 years, S/o. Vasudeva Acharya, residing at No.471, 8th Main Road, 3rd Cross, Vijayanagar, Bangalore North, Bangalore-560040, hereby declare that my names **SRIPATHI ACHARYA .B, BANGALORE SRIPATHI ACHARYA and ACHARYA SRIPATHI ACHARYA** belongs to one and the same person, henceforth, I have decided to continue my name in future as **BANGALORE SRIPATHI ACHARYA** vide Affidavit dated 18.04.2025 sworn before advocate and notary Deepa .M, Bangalore

**CHANGE OF NAME**
I, VEENA B R, W/o Subramanya Kumar R/o: No. 444, Kousthuba, 3rd Block, 11th Cross, HMT Layout, Vidyaranyapura P.O. DIST: Bengaluru, Karnataka-560097, have changed my name from VEENA B R to MITHRAA S K DOB: 23.06.1985 vide Dated: 17-04-2025, Sworn to before Notary Public G.P CHAYA, Bengaluru

For SMART ADS & THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS CLASSIFIEDS
Contact : Mr Ravi Kumar
9886550650
080-22866893

# RAVI BASRUR TRIUMPHS DARING TO BLEND CINEMA AND YAKSHAGANA

A SHARADHAA

**VEERA CHANDRAHASA**
**Direction :** Ravi Basrur
**Cast:** Shithil Shetty, Prasanna Shettigar, Nagashree GS, Shivarajkumar, and Uday Kadabal

WHEN cinema dares to don the crown of Yakshagana, the film shouldn't just entertain but should perform as an entity. Known for his thunderous background scores in mainstream actioners like *KGF* and *Salaar*, to name a few, Ravi Basrur, who occasionally switches to direction, now steps into the open-air theatre of Karnataka's soul and attempts something audacious with *Veera Chandrahasa*. Translating the living, breathing pulse of Yakshagana on screen, he doesn't just helm; he channels.

Standing out from a regular period film embellished with grandeur, *Veera Chandrahasa* is a cultural plunge into a traditional art form well-balanced with its reverberating music and lyrical richness; stylistically made while also true to its spiritual roots. The film revisits the myth of Chandrahasa, an orphaned boy destined for the throne — a tale known to many through Yakshagana lore and even through the classic 1965 film *Chandrahasa*, starring Dr. Rajkumar. This retelling of Ravi Basrur doesn't milk on nostalgia but attempts to revive this classic.

From the very first frame, the film proclaims its commitment. Every line is performed, not just mouthed. The conversations echo in the elongated metre of Yakshagana; the costumes — vivid, exaggerated, packed with symbolism — never stray from the roots. It is as if the entire film was transported from a Bayalata stage and dropped into a digital frame.

The plot is straightforward but is also layered. A prophecy foretells Chandrahasa's rise — the boy with six fingers. Threatened by the oracle, Dushtabuddhi, a venomous minister, sets out to kill the child. But fate has destined Chandrahasa for something big. Chandrahasa survives and returns — unknowingly — to the land that once conspired against him. What follows is not merely a revenge arc, but a tug-of-war between destiny and deceit, played out with rhythm, rhyme, and theatrical flair.

The director reimagines Yakshagana with care and courage. The live narration might be missing, but its essence lingers in the background score. Instead of mimed fights and symbolic gestures, we get real horse chases, collision of weapons, and battle scenes that feel cinematic without losing their folk sheen. The rhythm is retained. The structure is tweaked without diluting the soul.

The performances are rooted and radiant. Many actors are actual Yakshagana artists — and it shows. Shithil Shetty plays Chandrahasa with admirable restraint, but it's Prasanna Shettigar Mandarthi who brings fire to the frame. As Dushtabuddhi, he's all swagger and slyness — a villain you love to watch, hate, and admire. His smile carries mischief, and his words drop like curses wrapped in poetry.

Comic relief comes in the form of Uday Hegde Kadabala's Madana. Some jokes land, others feel forced — but they serve as breathers between the dramatic highs. Shivarajkumar's special appearance adds substance, while the figures of Dr. Rajkumar and Puneeth Rajkumar, appearing through CG, come as a tribute. Chandan Shetty, Garuda Ram, and Puneeth Rudranag helped make the film attractive with less to contribute to the narrative.

No Yakshagana-inspired work is complete without music — and here, Ravi Basrur does what he knows best: score. The background music is intense — sometimes grand, sometimes restrained — but always aligned with the tone. Traditional instruments are used wisely and sparingly, but powerfully. The poetic sequences — chanted rather than sung — add a ceremonial quality to the viewing experience.

Visually, the film walks a tightrope. The VFX and set design are not overly gaudy, but they bridge the theatrical with the cinematic. The palace corridors, battlefield smoke, and dream-like transitions felt like a painting in motion. And that works.

Still, the rhythm is different. It demands attention and asks viewers to tune into a slower, poetic frequency. If you're unfamiliar with Yakshagana, it might test your patience at times. But once you give it time, the film finds its groove — and holds your attention.

There's always a risk in marrying folk art with cinema. One is oral and improvised; the other is visualised and edited. *Veera Chandrahasa* doesn't need to achieve a perfect fusion. What counts is the intention — and here, Ravi Basrur's intent is clear: not to modernise Yakshagana, but to spotlight it. He brings a new cinematic grammar that honours an old, breathing form.

At its core, *Veera Chandrahasa* is a love letter to an art form that refuses to wane. And in an era of polished epics and formula storytelling, this film stands apart — raw, risk-taking, and reverent.

The idea that cinema can be a stage for heritage — this is a rare offering. It's a celebration of the coastal Karnataka — the kind that demands we not just watch, but listen. *Veera Chandrahasa* doesn't just tell a story. It sings it, chants it, performs it. And in doing so, it dares to dream differently.

CE FEATURES

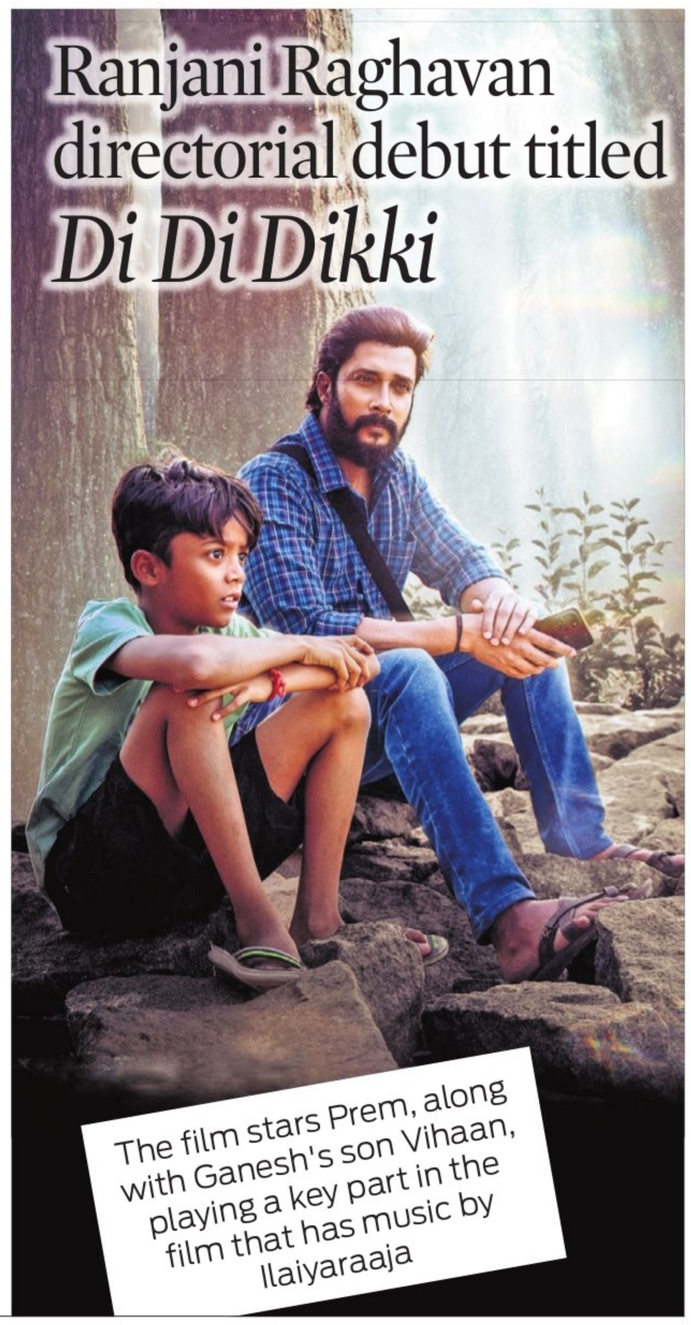
# Ranjani Raghavan directorial debut titled *Di Di Dikki*

WE had reported earlier this year that Ranjani Raghavan, the actor who made a transition from television to film, will step into the shoes of the director for a feature film. The latest announcement is that the film has been titled *Di Di Dikki*. This project is more special to her as it features music by the legendary composer Ilaiyaraaja. Over half the shoot is already complete, and the makers revealed the film's first motion poster.

The poster evokes fun and curiosity, as it features actor Prem in the lead role, while Golden Star Ganesh's son, Vihaan, plays a key role in the film. His inclusion adds more interest towards the project.

*Di Di Dikki* holds many personal achievements for Ranjani Raghavan. The film is produced by Dr. Anand Kumar and Ramakrishna, in collaboration with Jadeshaa K. Hampi's Hampi Pictures. Another exciting name attached to the project is Tharun Kishore Sudhir, who joins the team as the creative head.

The film also has Aaroor S Sudhakar handling cinematography and KM Prakash handling the cuts. With a strong team, a unique title, and the magic of Ilaiyaraaja's music, Ranjani hopes *Di Di Dikki* will surprise and entertain audiences with its mix of charm, freshness, and talent—both behind and in front of the camera.


The film stars Prem, along with Ganesh's son Vihaan, playing a key part in the film that has music by Ilaiyaraaja

# Ryan Gosling and Shawn Levy team up for *Star Wars: Starfighter*

CE FEATURES

EARLIER, we reported about Ryan Gosling being in talks to star in filmmaker Shawn Levy's *Star Wars* film. The latest from the project is that Gosling has been cast in the film, titled *Star Wars: Starfighter*. The actor and the filmmaker made the announcement at the *Star Wars* Celebration event in Tokyo. They film's makers also revealed that the next instalment in the *Star Wars* franchise will go on floors later this year and will hit theatres on May 28, 2027.

Set five years following the events of The Rise of Skywalker, *Star Wars: Starfighter* marks Gosling and Levy's first collaboration together. Levy dismissed rumours about the film being a prequel. "It's a new adventure," said the Deadpool and Wolverine filmmaker. On the other hand, Gosling described it as a film with "a great story with great and original characters" and "so much heart and adventure." The actor also said that Levy is the most "perfect filmmaker for this particular story."

Jonathan Tropper has been writing the film for the past two years. The makers are yet to reveal plot details, but it is not part of the Luke Skywalker universe.

Multiple other *Star Wars* films are in development at the Lucasfilm banner of Disney, with filmmakers James Mangold, Sharmeen Obaid-Chinoy, and Simon Kinberg. The Sharmeen Obaid-Chinoy stars actor Daisy Ridley reprising her role as Rey from the *Star Wars* sequel trilogy.

# *Yuddhakaanda Chapter 2* shines a light on justice lost

A SHARADHAA

**YUDDHAKAANDA CHAPTER 2**
**Director:** Pavan Bhat
**Cast:** Krishna Ajai Rao, Prakash Belawadi, Archana Jois, Supritha Sathyanarayana, and Radnya Rakesh

*YUDDHAKAANDA Chapter 2* portrays the courtroom not merely as a place for legal debate but as a war zone where truth bleeds, justice limps, and silence screams loudest. The film opens with a moment so tense, it pulls the breath out of the room. A young woman steps into the courtroom premises and fires a bullet. But this isn't a stunt for shock value. It's a culmination—a whisper turned into a roar after being ignored by the system one too many times. What follows isn't a murder mystery but a slow, simmering dissection of what we call justice.

We are shown the echoing halls of Dharma College of Law—the place where justice is first learnt and often unlearnt. Here, Robert D'Souza (Prakash Belawadi), a seasoned legal mind, delivers a rousing oath to future lawyers, including Bharath Hanumantha Rao (Krishna Ajai Rao), a hotel cashier due to circumstances but a lawyer driven by grit. Bharath isn't your polished legal hero. An orphan who's survived on instincts, he's raw, driven, and learning as he goes. After bouncing through firms, he lands in the neglected chamber of Nagabhushan Associates with just a 40 per cent cut of whatever he wins as his pay. But in that creaky, dusty space, filled with case files, he finds his footing. Sapna (Supritha Sathyanarayana), a poised legal consultant, steadies his chaos with quiet strength and clear thinking.

His early cases—workplace harassment and a road accident—may seem minor, but to Bharath, they're battlegrounds. His methods are scrappy, sometimes cheeky yet effective. Each courtroom session chisels him, building his confidence and craft.

Then comes Case 19/1 - 2023. Niveditha Amardeep (Archana Jois) is charged under IPC 302 for a murder at the courtroom premises. The victim? Jackie, brother of an aspiring politician, Janardhan. But this isn't just about a shooting. It's about everything that led to it—a mother's fight for her comatose daughter (Radnya Rakesh), a system that silenced too long, and a trail of trauma, drugs, and denial.

Across the bench stands Robert, the very man who once inspired Bharath. Now, the mentor and the mentee face off. Robert, with over 2200 cases and 120 wins. Bharath, with six months of courtroom hustle. But this battle is not about numbers; it's about conviction and rage.

The film's first half is a riveting build-up, a blend of courtroom tension and human struggle, where justice isn't just argued but lived. Director Pavan Bhat lets emotions brew instead of spoon-feeding them. The pacing is deliberate. Scenes breathe—sometimes slow, and sometimes painfully—but that's the point. Justice delayed isn't just denied here, it's dissected.

The second half opens it all up. Just when you think it's about one case, it reveals layers—lives that mirror Niveditha's, minus the headlines. The courtroom becomes a lens through which we view neglected truths. However, the film's impact extends beyond legal arguments. It resides in the poignant silences — the image of a child on a ventilator, a mother's desperate pleas at the closed doors of justice. These moments act like mirror shards, reflecting the aspects of India we choose to see or ignore.

Krishna Ajai Rao doesn't just play a lawyer—he becomes one. His sincerity carries the film. This isn't merely a performance; it's a belief made visible. Possibly his most moving work yet, both as actor and producer. Prakash Belawadi, razor-sharp as Robert, is as unsettling as he is calm. He makes being wrong look dignified—a masterclass in restraint and layered portrayal. His quiet forcefulness gives the film its spine. TS Nagabharana, as Somashekar Talakad, the judge, doesn't need volume to command presence.

His final words don't feel written; they feel remembered, like we've heard them before in editorials or candlelit vigils. They echo with the weight of national conscience. Archana Jois is electric as Niveditha. She doesn't ask for sympathy. She demands to be heard. Her pain is not told—it is unveiled, layer by layer, with haunting clarity. You don't just understand her—you carry her story long after the film ends. With support from Radnya Rakesh and Supritha Sathyanarayana among others, the film occasionally teeters on melodrama—especially in emotionally intense courtroom scenes—but it regains balance quickly. Cinematography stays clinical, fluorescent-lit and unglamorous, capturing the court corridors realistically. The music knows when to vanish, letting silences take over.

RATING 3/5

In the final act, Bharath, as the lawyer and as actor and producer, Krishna Ajai Rao, write to the President — not out of hope, but desperation. A raw plea not just for one client but for the nameless many stuck in dusty files and rusted systems It's a powerful moment, suggesting that perhaps only when stories like *Yuddhakaanda* are acknowledged can there be a sense of resolution. Cinema doesn't always have to entertain. Sometimes, it must plead. Yes, it's a legal drama. But it's also a reminder that justice, when delayed, is reshaped into something unrecognisable. Something denied. Dismissed. And perhaps that's what the makers intended.